

# BURGHOUND.COM®

## THE ULTIMATE BURGUNDY REFERENCE

### In This Issue – 198 Producers and 1,149 Wines Reviewed

2021 and 2020 Côte d'Or Whites . . . . .	3 - 178
Current Release California and Oregon Pinot Noir . . . . .	179 - 193

### Statement of Principles

It is important that readers understand how I collect and evaluate the information that is reported in the pages of **Burghound.com** (the tasting notes and information are the sole responsibility of the author).

- I am personally responsible for all of my business expenses without exception. This includes airfare, hotels and effectively all of my meals. The purpose is as clear as it is simple: No conflicts of interest. *I do not accept nor do I seek subsidy, in any form, from anybody.*
- Sample bottles are accepted for evaluation and commentary, much as book reviewers accept advance copies of new releases. I insist, however, that these sample bottles represent the final wines to be sold under that particular label.
- Finished, bottled wines are assigned scores as these wines are market ready. Wines tasted from barrel, however, are scored within a range. This reflects the reality that a wine tasted from barrel is not a finished product.
- Wines are evaluated within the context of their appellations. Simply put, that means I expect a grand cru Burgundy to reflect its exalted status.
- While the concept of terroir remains a controversial issue in the opinion of many people, it is not controversial to the Burgundian mindset—or to me, either. I attempt to convey, where appropriate, how certain wines are particularly good, or particularly bad, at expressing their underlying terroir.
- This is admittedly a difficult thing, rightly open to discussion among the Burgundians themselves, never mind an outside observer such as myself. Nevertheless, it is fundamental to great Burgundy. Mere "hedonism" is just that: empty pleasure seeking. Burgundy can deliver so much more—if it is asked.
- Finally, my job, and what you pay me for, is to evaluate wine, not sell it to you. As such, every opinion is an honest one.

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## A Brief Word about Scores:

Numerical scores are endlessly debated among wine lovers. Inevitably, critics tend to emphasize certain characteristics at the expense of others. What follows is an explication of scores at **Burghound.com** and the underlying taste values they reflect.

Simply put, Burgundies that emphasize purity, elegance, overall balance and a clear expression of the underlying *terroir* are rated more highly than Burgundies that don't deliver these qualities. Other important characteristics include typicity, richness, balanced extraction, length and harmony. For example, a Volnay should taste like a Volnay and a *grand cru* should deliver a *grand cru* drinking experience.

The score is a summation of the taster's thoughts about a wine. It does not actually express those thoughts. Clearly, a mere number cannot fully represent the nuanced, detailed impression conveyed by a tasting note. Wines are scored based on their expected quality at peak drinkability. Many *grand crus* that will, I believe, "be" a 92 may not necessarily taste like a 92-point wine when young, thanks to the prominent tannins or general inaccessibility.

Wines rated 90 points or above are worth a special effort to find and cellar. Wines rated 85 or above are recommended, **especially among regional and villages-level wines**. There will be relatively few 90+ point wines, simply because there are relatively few outstanding and superlative wines. Finished, bottled wines are assigned specific scores as these wines are market ready. Wines tasted from barrel are scored within a range. This reflects the reality that a wine tasted from barrel is not a finished, market-ready product.

**Important Note:** Every wine formally presented by a producer or distributor for evaluation is reviewed, period, no exceptions. Thus no Burghound.com reader need question whether I have chosen not to comment on a given wine because it was flawed or substandard. In short, if a wine that is not corked is presented for review, it appears here.

<b>95 – 100:</b>	<b>Truly incomparable and emotionally thrilling.</b> A wine/Champagne so rated is as good as it gets. By definition, it is reference standard for its appellation or variety.
<b>90 – 94:</b>	<b>Outstanding.</b> Worth a special effort to purchase and cellar and will provide memorable drinking experiences.
<b>85 – 89:</b>	<b>Good to High quality.</b> Wines that offer solid quality in every respect and generally very good typicity. "Good Value" wines will often fall into this category. Worth your attention.
<b>80 – 84:</b>	<b>Average to Good quality.</b> The wine is "correct", displays no noticeable flaws and will provide pleasing, if straightforward, drinking.
<b>76 – 79:</b>	<b>Barely Acceptable quality.</b> The wine is not worth your attention nor is it a good value.
<b>75 and Below:</b>	<b>Don't Bother.</b> A wine with noticeable, irremediable flaws.

## Estimated Maturities:

Estimating when any Burgundy or pinot noir will be at its peak is an extremely difficult thing to do with precision. The time frames that you see after the score is my best estimate as to when a given wine will likely be at its best. This is of course simply an educated guess about how the wine will evolve and assumes that the wine will have been responsibly shipped and stored, which as long-time collectors and auction buyers know is not always the case. Just as importantly, the suggested windows are based on how I personally prefer my Burgundies and pinots. This effectively means that for reds, there is still obvious freshness and vibrancy remaining to both the fruit and the flavors and while the tannic structure will be largely resolved, it doesn't mean that a completely smooth palate will be devoid of any firmness. Especially tannic and/or concentrated wines will necessarily have more extended windows for obvious reasons. For whites, the windows are intended to indicate the point at which youthful fruit has passed into secondary nuances with more fully developed complexity as well as when the textures have rounded out and the sometimes overly bright acidity has mellowed. Important note: what the estimated maturities do NOT suggest is how long a wine will remain structurally sound and still capable of providing enjoyment as many Burgundies, in particular reds, are capable of holding for remarkably long periods; however, beyond a certain point they will have passed their peaks and are best drunk, no matter how intellectually interesting they may be. As with anything this subjective, there is no substitute for your own experience and I offer these estimated maturities as a general guideline, not gospel.

## The 198 Producers Reviewed in Issue 91

### Domaine/Maison

Adélie  
Ambroise, Bertrand  
Amiot et Fils, Guy  
Amiot-Servelle  
d'Angerville, Marquis  
d'Ardhuy  
Armand, Comte/Clos des Epeneaux  
Audoin, Charles  
Bachelet, Jean-Claude  
Bachelet-Monnot  
Ballot-Millot et Fils  
Belland, Roger/Joseph  
Bellene, de  
Bellene, Roche de  
Bichot, Albert  
Bitouzet-Prieur  
Bize, Simon  
Blain-Gagnard  
Blouctet-Garnier-Bichot  
Boccon, Thomas  
Boillot, Henri – Domaine  
Boillot, Henri – Maison  
Bonneau du Martray  
Bouchard Père & Fils  
Boudier, Jean-Baptiste  
Bouvier, René  
Bouzereau, Michel  
Boyer-Martenot  
Buisson-Charles  
Burguet, Jean-Luc & Eric  
Carillon, François  
Carillon, Jacques  
Cathiard, Sylvain  
Cellier aux Moines, du  
Champy  
Chandon de Briailles  
Chanson Père et Fils  
Chanzy, Maison  
Chapelle, Clos de la  
Chartron, Jean  
Chenu Père & Filles, Louis  
Chevalier Père et Fils  
Clair, Bruno  
Clerget, Christian  
Coche-Dury  
Colin, Bruno  
Colin, Joseph  
Colin, Marc  
Colin, Philippe  
Colin, Simon  
Colin-Morey, Pierre-Yves  
Confuron, Edouard  
Confuron, Jean-Jacques  
Cornu, Edmond  
Couvent, du  
Croix, des

Damoy  
Dancer, Vincent  
Delaunay, Edouard  
Derey Frères  
Drouhin, Joseph  
Dubreuil-Fontaine  
Dujac  
Dussort, Sylvain  
Ente, Arnaud  
Ente, Benoît  
Faiveley  
Felettig, Henri  
Fichet, Jean-Philippe  
Follin-Arbelet  
Fontaine-Gagnard  
Fournier, Jean  
Fourrier  
Gagnard, Jean-Noël  
Germain et Fils, Henri  
Girard, Jean-Jacques  
Girardin, Vincent  
Giroud, Camille  
Glantenay, Georges  
Gouges, Henri  
Gris, Château-  
Gros, Anne  
Gros Frère et Soeur  
Guyon, Antonin  
Guyon, Jean-Pierre  
Harbour  
Heitz, Armand  
Hoffmann-Jayer  
Huber-Verdereau  
Hudelot-Baillet  
Hudelot-Noëllat  
Jadot, Louis  
Jobard, Antoine  
Jobard, Rémi (Domaine)  
Jobard, Rémi (Maison)  
Joliet Père et Fils  
Julien & Fils, Gérard  
Labet, Pierre et François  
Labruyère-Prieur Sélection  
Lafarge, Michel  
Lafon, des Comtes  
Lafouge, Jean et Gilles  
Lamarche, Nicole  
Lambrays, des  
Lamy, Hubert et Olivier  
Langoureau, Sylvain  
Laroze de Drouhin  
Latour, Louis  
Latour, Vincent  
Latour-Giraud  
Leflaive  
Leflaive, Olivier – Domaine

Leflaive, Olivier – Maison  
 Leroux, Benjamin  
 Leroy, Domaine  
 Liger-Belair, du Comte  
 Liger-Belair, Thibault  
 Magnien, Frédéric  
 Mallard, Michel  
 Maltroye, Château de la  
 Marsannay, Château de  
 Matrot, Thierry et Pascale/Pierre  
 Méo-Camuzet Frère et Soeurs  
 Meurgey-Croses  
 Meursault, Château de  
 Mikulski, François  
 Millemann Wines  
 Millet et Fils, François  
 Moine, Lucien Le  
 Montille, Domaine de  
 Montille, Maison de  
 Moreau, Alex  
 Moreau, Benoît  
 Morey, Caroline  
 Morey, Marc  
 Morey, Pierre  
 Morey, Sylvain  
 Morey, Thomas  
 Morey, Vincent & Sophie  
 Morey-Blanc  
 Morey-Coffinet  
 Mugnier, Jacques-Frédéric  
 Niellon, Michel  
 Pacalet, Philippe  
 Pataille, Sylvain  
 Pavelot, Hugues  
 Pavelot, Jean-Marc & Hugues  
 Pavillon, du  
 Pernot, Alvina  
 Pernot, Paul  
 Pillot, Fernand et Laurent  
 Pillot, Jean-Marc  
 Pillot, Paul  
 Ponsot, Domaine  
 Ponsot, Laurent  
 Pousse d'Or  
 Prieur, Jacques  
 Prieur-Brunet  
 Prudhon et Fils, Henri  
 Prunier-Bonheur, Pascal

Ramonet, Jean-Claude  
 Rapet Père et Fils  
 Rion, Michèle et Patrice  
 Rollin Père et Fils  
 Romanée-Conti, de la  
 Roty, Joseph  
 Roulot  
 Roulot, Jean-Marc  
 Roumier, Georges  
 Roux Père et Fils  
 Roy, Marc  
 Sauzet, Etienne  
 Senard, Comte  
 Thomas-Collardot  
 Trapet  
 Violot-Guillemard, Joannès  
 Vogüé, Comte de  
 Voillot, Joseph  
 Vougeraie, de la

#### California Pinot Noir:

Atelier Winery  
 Beauregard Vineyards  
 Bohème Wines  
 Bravium  
 Della, Domaine  
 Dutton-Goldfield Winery  
 François, Domaine Jean  
 Morgan Winery  
 RAEN Winery  
 Testarossa  
 Tongue Dancer Wines

#### Oregon Pinot Noir:

Big Table Farm  
 Boedecker Cellars  
 Brooks Wines  
 Evening Land Vineyards  
 Flâneur Wines  
 Lange Estate Winery and Vineyards  
 Pappas Wine Co.  
 Trisaetum Winery

# The 2021 and 2020 Côte d'Or White Burgundy Vintages

## 2021 Summary – An Excellent, if Variable and Tiny, Classic White Burgundy Vintage:

The 2021 white burgundy vintage can be summed up concisely and thusly: the good news is that the best wines are nothing short of brilliant; the bad news is that finding them will require Sherlock Holmes-level sleuthing or, barring that, being best buds with your local wine purveyors!

During my visits to about 250 producers in the Côte d'Or this past fall and winter, the mood among the predominantly white wine producers was a potent mixture of ill-concealed relief over the unexpectedly fine quality despite the frost damage, and commercial torment over the pitifully tiny quantities because of it. Moreover, many growers expressed serious concern as to how they were going to fight the risk of frost going forward as the ravages of the 2016 vintage were still fresh.

As was the case everywhere in the Côte d'Or, the same two words seemed to emanate from the mouths of almost every grower regarding the 2021 growing season: *difficile* and *compliqué*, neither of which presumably needs translating! This has, in a way, become a common theme because when you consider the growing seasons of 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2016, every one of them presented their fair share of challenges, even if those challenges were not necessarily all cut from the same cloth. For reasons that I will explain in more detail, 2021 was easily the most difficult since 2016 and on par with the trio of 2012, 2013 and 2014, at least in the Côte de Beaune.

Because Issue 91 deals with the whites, it's important to heavily emphasize that the 2021 growing season was even more difficult than it was for the reds. Why? Because chardonnay is more precocious than pinot noir and, to make matters worse, the Côte de Beaune, where most of the chardonnay is planted, is more precocious than the Côte de Nuits. In this case, precocious means that bud break occurs earlier. When a severe early season frost occurs, as was the case in 2021 (the nights of April 6, 7 and 8), it inevitably engenders more damage in chardonnay because the vines are always more advanced. Indeed, the only mildly beneficial saving grace in any of this is that the frost occurred earlier in the season than was the case for example in 2016 (April 26 and 27), where it was later and the vines were further along in terms of their vegetative cycle.

The frost also weakened the vines' resistance to subsequent disease pressure, in particular oidium and mildew, though there was some end-of-season botrytis as well. As I will explain, this also had an impact, and at times a major impact, on fruit quality, and to a lesser extent, on quantities.

As always in my vintage summaries, I like to get right to the point regarding wine quality. The short answer is that quality is generally excellent but make no mistake, it's highly, even frustratingly, variable, ranging from the awful, to the acceptable, to the excellent and in some cases, to the genuinely sublime. The good news though is that when the wines are good, they're terrific as a brief glance at the Burghound Selection charts immediately below will confirm. In fact, I have rarely ever had more wines selected for inclusion in the charts, which is in itself a strong indicator of wine quality.

I would further observe that 2021 is the kind of vintage that I absolutely love, at least stylistically speaking. Otherwise expressed, 2021 is a burg geek's vintage par excellence. The best wines are superbly fresh and transparent as the underlying terroir is wonderfully clear; indeed, it's at the core of each wine. In fact, I would go so far as to say that the terroir is so crystalline in 2021 that even those who doubt its existence might well be persuaded to reconsider their convictions. Outstanding transparency though is not all there is, as the wines are strikingly refreshing and tension filled. In fact, one of my favorite Burgundian sayings when describing especially appealing or interesting wines is "*le premier verre appelle le deuxième*" or the first glass calls for the second; 2021 is the epitome of that sentiment, at least when they are of sufficient quality, which unfortunately is not always the case, though with that said, the 2021 whites are indisputably more consistent than the reds, which is typically true in less ripe vintages.

While I have in a sense already given away how the rollercoaster ride that was the 2021 growing season concluded, this mostly happy ending was anything but assured. It is not by accident that some *vignerons* described it as, "the growing season from hell," because it saw just about every misfortune possible, even if they weren't evenly distributed from one commune to another. For example, Blagny and the southern part of Meursault were absolutely devastated from frost, whereas much of St. Aubin, which is not so far away, was largely spared. Or another example is that the southern portion of Beaune was hit extremely hard while the northern portion much less so. Savigny did reasonably well yet the Hill of Corton, its immediate neighbor, was basically wiped out even though the quality here is excellent. And when I say devastated, I'm talking single digit yields in terms of hectoliters per hectare. But the key takeaway is that while there was at least some frost damage everywhere, some communes were much harder hit than others.

The severe frost, even if it was the worst problem, was far from the only one but at least the trauma came and went quickly. This would not be the case for most of the other problems because there was cool weather for much of the summer, light but frequent rain, a generally poor flowering, severe attacks of both mildew and oidium (powdery mildew), an equally vicious attack of *mange-bourgeons* (bud eating caterpillars) plus a heavy storm just before the harvest that unleashed a devastating attack of botrytis. It's honestly hard to pack more problems into a single growing season! As if a bitter cherry on the *vignerons'* growing season cake was necessary, in many cases the chardonnay yields in 2021 were even smaller than they were in 2003 or 2016, and more than a few domaines said they were their lowest ever. While definitely a painful "silver lining" of a sort, some of the more philosophical growers freely admitted that it was a good thing that yields were so low because if not, sufficient ripeness levels would never have been attained given the cool and generally wet conditions. As one seasoned grower told me, "Better a little of something good than a lot of something awful." Quite so.

As such, picking dates are more deceptive than usual in 2021 because even though yields were down sharply almost everywhere, there were exceptions, either because of location (parts of St. Aubin for example), or because parcels were protected by warming candles (in particular Bâtard), or just plain luck. Another reason is that despite the pre-harvest attack of botrytis, many domaines either picked before it could spread, though perhaps at the expense of some needed extra maturity. Alternatively, some decided to take the risk of possibly allowing it to spread, but with the benefit of a few extra days of ripening, and then sorting out the affected fruit. As it turned out, this was an effective strategy, but at the sometimes considerable, additional cost (as high as 20%) of losing even more of your crop.

Remarkably enough given all of the problems, fruit quality was generally considered to be very good to excellent. Not surprisingly, maturities did vary from grower to grower for several reasons, the most important of which was of course the frost and whether the second-generation fruit was used. It's worth underscoring a little-known fact about harvesting this second-generation fruit, which is that it's not easy to discern the difference between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generations, even by the growers themselves, let alone a seasonal picker. I point this out because inadvertently using 2<sup>nd</sup> generation fruit is not the result of a lack of rigor on the part of the growers, or even just greed in wanting to have more volume. It's simply that it's extremely difficult to know the difference unless one tastes each berry, and obviously that isn't feasible!

Potential alcohols were moderate at between 12 and 13%, with most coming in at the upper end of that range. Some elected to leave well enough alone while others chaptalized between .5 and 1% to get to the supposed, and debatable, sweet spot of around 13%. Interestingly, and especially so given the coolness of the growing season, acidities and associated pHs were not especially high; indeed they were barely higher than what was obtained in 2020 (or lower if referring to pHs).

From the standpoint of quality, 2021 produced many really lovely wines that should provide for delicious drinking early, yet be capable of amply rewarding mid-term cellaring and in a few cases, they should be as long-lived as most collectors would reasonably want. However, it also produced some herbaceous and/or edgy wines that possess a bit too much acidity or greenish acidity (often when too much second-generation fruit was used) to be properly balanced. When the 2021s are good though, they are a joy to drink, not only because they are delicious but also because they are capable of appealing to the intellect as well, because of their superb terroir transparency. I hesitate to call them the "thinking person's burgundies" but there is an element of that in the wines. To craft another comparison, they are stylistically about as far away from 2015, 2018 and 2019 as one can get. To this end, 2021 vintage comparisons are quite varied as comparisons were invoked with 1981 (a badly frosted vintage as well), 1987, 1990, 1992, 2002, 2007, 2011, 2014 and 2017 and, somewhat surprisingly, even 2020.

In summary, 2021 is an excellent white Burgundy vintage even if it wasn't as consistent as say 2020. The biggest problem will be finding the wines as there was so little made. You will see in the domaine reviews that there is example after example where certain vineyards produced so little that they were not individually declared. More on all of this below.

## **2021 – The Growing Season and Harvest**

Initially, the season had every appearance of repeating the precociousness experienced in 2020 as both January and February were warmer than normal and particularly February as it was almost 50% warmer! I remember growers lamenting at the time that frost was a real risk but if that didn't happen, they would be picking in July! The first three weeks of March though were slightly cooler than normal, which helped slow the vegetative cycle. Unfortunately, the last 10 days of the month were warmer than normal and the accumulation of rainfall to that point was over 100 mm higher than the seasonal average. Even though the March temperatures were slightly cooler, the rainfall through January was so far above normal that the soils remained soaked. This created the ideal conditions for bud break to commence early, and that's exactly what happened. To that point, the vegetative cycle was roughly equivalent to 2019, one of the most precocious on record.

Even though April temperatures were also cooler than normal, the first few days were much warmer and not surprisingly, given the combination of warmth and sufficient ground water, the vegetation exploded. Importantly, and as is typically the case, the chardonnay was at least a week more advanced than the pinot vines. When temperatures fell to below freezing on the nights of April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, it was the perfect recipe for catastrophe, not only for the pinot but especially so for the chardonnay.



So that readers can have a better appreciation for the vagaries of frost damage, what follows is a short summary of how things typically work in Burgundy. First, not all early season cold snaps visit the same effects on the vines. Obviously, the sheer depth of the temperatures is the most critical variable but there are several others, in particular whether the cold is vertically similar (e.g., is the cold air mostly near the ground or it is uniform from the ground to the height of several hundred meters?); also, is the cold accompanied by wind or snow, or has it by chance been preceded by rain? If the freezing conditions are really extreme (below -5 to -10° C), the vines themselves will survive depending on the conditions, but any growth that may exist will almost certainly be completely burned. But even conditions as “temperate” as -2° to -3° C can damage incipient growth, which is why early bud break is so risky.

If the cold is vertical, wind turbines that attempt to mix warmer air with the cooler air nearer to the ground are ineffective. If it is windy, warming candles (or the old diesel fueled smudge pots that are still in use by some) are ineffective, at least absent having a very large number of them, something that is impractical for most producers. If there is snow, this can be a positive as it helps to insulate the vines against the cold. However, if the temperatures warm slightly, causing the snow to melt and thus soaking the buds, and then they subsequently drop to below freezing and the buds are destroyed, which is exactly what happened on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

To provide a bit of perspective on the efficacy of warming candles, 300 to 400 of them per hectare can raise the ambient temperature by 1° to 2° C. Depending on availability and the quantity purchased, the cost per unit is roughly €8 to €11, and they typically last 7 to 8 hours. This of course doesn't include the labor involved in spacing them properly (usually they are placed so that one candle covers 25 to 30 square meters, or in Burgundy, which typically uses a meter-by-meter planting density, 25 to 30 vines), lighting them and extinguishing them. Theft is also a recurrent problem so domaines tend not to place them out in the vineyards during the day when it's convenient but rather when there is an alert of falling temperatures at 1 or 2 am! The candles then have to be gathered up and stored and if necessary, the scene is repeated for as many nights as needed. Effectively, this means that it costs, in round numbers, around €4000 per hectare per night to potentially provide your vines 1° to 2° C of protection. As noted, this figure does not include the cost of labor, but it also doesn't account for the fatigue and psychological wear and tear of consecutive nights of no sleep while standing outside in frigid conditions.

Damage to the buds typically begins to occur between -2° to -3° C, so at those levels, 300 to 400 candles per hectare can be effective, provided of course that it's not windy. But the conditions in early April were typically between -4° and -9° C depending on the night and the sector, which meant that absent doubling the number of candles per hectare along with the attendant cost and effort, there was little to nothing to be done.

Returning to the situation extant during the nights of April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, the circumstances were, most unfortunately, not propitious to avoiding damage. A huge mass of cold air arrived over the region that was vertical in nature, again meaning that it was extremely cold from the ground straight up. Moreover, the night of the 6<sup>th</sup> was quite windy so warming candles were ineffective absent having more of them than is really practical. The night of the 7<sup>th</sup> snowed so the candles were not only ineffective but outright dangerous as the last thing one wants to do is melt the snow when it's very cold. Then, the night of the 8<sup>th</sup> was extremely cold so again, absent putting out double or triple the usual number of candles, they were again ineffective. I would add that the snow that fell on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> did in fact melt, soaking the buds and since the coldest night of the three was in fact the 8<sup>th</sup>, the soaked buds were destroyed.

In the end though, the frost damage was variable, and for a variety of reasons. The first was the stage of vine development, which is to say that the more advanced it was the greater the damage. Sites that are naturally more precocious suffered more damage while those that are typically late starting suffered less. This explains why the 1ers and grand crus were typically hit much harder than were the *villages* and regional vineyards. Second was the degree of protection provided, which as discussed above, was variable in its effects. Thirdly was just the luck of the draw as some sectors were spared to varying degrees. Damage estimates were similarly all over the place but as a general rule, they ran between 20% and 90%, with most growers telling me that they lost on average between 60 and 90% for the chardonnay.

A good example of this sector-by-sector variability was the commune of Chassagne-Montrachet. Usually when conditions favor frost, the prevailing wind comes from the north. In 2021, the wind came from the west, which is to say from St. Aubin and flowed over the hillsides. As such, rather than the lower lying areas suffering the worst damage, it was the premier cru vineyards on the slope that suffered the most.

One other aspect that bears mentioning, is that frost like the one that hit Burgundy in 2021 has another more subtle but almost as pernicious effect. This is to say that it weakens the vines' defenses against other problems such as cryptogamic diseases and predators. As will be described below, the attacks of mildew and oidium were severe and many growers attributed at least some of their virulence to the weakening effects of the frost.

The frost wasn't the only problem to appear in April. There was an attack of *mange-bourgeons* (bud eating caterpillars, also known as *noctuelles* as they appear at night). There isn't much to be done against them absent using insecticides, something that most growers don't use anymore. The other remedy is to remove the tiny bugs manually, but as you might well imagine, that is a slow and laborious process, and particularly so because it's not easy to see them in the dark. Loss estimates from these tiny critters were as high as 15%, so their presence wasn't trivial. One would intuitively think that the severe frosts would have reduced the population of the *mange-bourgeons*, but it didn't appear to have any effect. Thankfully by the end of April, the remaining caterpillars had matured and this particular problem was mostly resolved.

Continuing our journey through the growing season, the remainder of April and May were cooler than normal and while June was slightly warmer (1.8° C above average), July and August were both again slightly cooler. September was slightly warmer, which was good for encouraging ripeness levels, though less so for limiting the spread of botrytis.

2021 was certainly wet but an important distinction is worth making: it was not so much the total rainfall that mattered, so much as it was the frequency of it that made the critical difference. To underscore the point, between April and September, there were 53 days of at least 1 mm of rain, or on roughly 1 day out of every 3 there was precipitation. Given how many domaines now protect their vineyards with organic treatments (known broadly as contact products), it only requires 10 to 15 mm of rain to wash away the last treatment, at which point another application is necessary. As such, the frequency of the rain matters a lot.

Moreover, another effect of frequent rain and generally cooler temperatures, is that the soils don't dry out as quickly, which means that it becomes increasingly difficult to get equipment into the vineyards for various tasks and in particular, to apply treatments. The muddy conditions can be quite dangerous as the tractors can easily slip, potentially damaging vines or worse still, the tractor operators. Growers reported that May and July were so wet, and the attacks of mildew and oidium so fierce, that they were obliged to apply their treatments manually using atomizers carried on their backs while wearing hazmat-like suits, or risk losing even more crop. As such, it was critical to treat where, when and how it was necessary at any given moment because there was no remedy if you were late.

Mildew in particular has become a very serious problem over the last decade and fighting it back has become increasingly difficult. Worse, oidium is not far behind in terms of the problems it causes (it was actually the bigger problem in 2021), especially for the chardonnay, but also in the cooler upper slope vineyards where it's typically windier as that's how the spores spread. The attack of mildew in 2016 was considered to be the worst in living memory but grower after grower told me that 2021 was even worse!

To provide a particularly powerful example of just how virulent these cryptogamic diseases can be, one grower told me that in anticipation of needing more treatments, he bought a new state-of-the-art tractor precisely for this reason. He related that he was making his treatments as recommended, yet he noticed that the oidium was rapidly spreading anyway. He called the dealer to inspect the tractor and its applicator, and they found that the dosage being applied wasn't properly regulated, and was under-treating by 20%. Now under-treating by 20% may not seem like much but the end result was catastrophic. Two full hectares of chardonnay in an Auxey-Duresses premier cru vineyard were literally destroyed in less than a week.

Depending on the specific sector, the flowering commenced around the 8<sup>th</sup> of June though reports were varied as to how it passed. Some said it was fast and successful, yet others reported that it didn't pass well as there was a high incidence of *coulure* (shatter), and in the process, cost even more potential yield. It also wasn't consistent between the lower lying vineyards and those on the hillsides as the former suffered a higher incidence of shatter.

August was a mixed bag as it were with a wet first 10 days of the month but dry thereafter with warmer temperatures that were effective in helping the growers fight off the attacks of mildew and oidium. *Véraison* started around mid-August and generally finished about the beginning of September. The good weather continued through the first 15 days and fruit maturities finally began to rise in earnest.

Unfortunately, there were mid-month rainstorms that triggered an attack of botrytis, in this case *pourriture grise* (gray rot). The Côte hadn't really seen much botrytis in the last several vintages due to relatively low rainfall levels and high temperatures. September though had conditions that were perfect for its development and growers began to notice it here and there. This close to the harvest, it can't be treated against, so the only effective remedy is leaf thinning, which many growers used to reasonably good effect.

Then, consistent with the rollercoaster ride that was 2021, a very large storm dropped 60 mm of rain in one day, about one week before the harvest was to begin for most growers. This complicated the calculation of when to begin picking enormously because at that point, most parcels weren't at sufficient maturity, yet absolutely no one wanted to lose more crop to yet another problem. The rain also had the effect of further diluting both the potential alcohols and the acidities. So, in essence, the thorny problem confronting the growers was painful in its clear simplicity: begin picking knowing your fruit wasn't adequately ripe or wait in the hopes of riper fruit while knowing that you were losing 3% to 5% of the remaining crop each day. A classic example of a Hobson's choice if there ever was one.



In the end, each domaine did what they thought was best for them under the circumstances. Some began early, knowing that the earlier picked fruit would be somewhat underripe, yet the later picked fruit might compensate. Others stubbornly waited knowing that it was costing them dearly and yet others compromised by starting early but picking very slowly so as to try to have the best of both worlds. But as I observed in the Vintage Summary, be careful judging wine quality based on the picking dates cited by each grower in my domaine summaries because there are any number of factors that can enter into the calculation and, in particular, how bad the frost hit that specific parcel and how much second-generation fruit was picked. In the end, one grower put it in unequivocally stark terms: “the 2021 harvest was won by those who are rich.” His meaning was that if you were wealthy enough to afford to lose another 20 to 25% of your crop, you waited to pick; if you weren’t, you picked because you couldn’t afford not to do otherwise.

In the end, and as is often the case in Burgundy, harvest dates were all over the map. Some in the Côte de Beaune started as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and others delayed picking until the 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of September, which means that there were those who finished in October. Harvest conditions were clement and largely stayed that way throughout. The speed at which growers picked varied, partially due to the continued scarcity of pickers and partially due to how clean the fruit was. Generally speaking, most growers reported bringing in spotless fruit while others said that oidium was a problem and had to be sorted very carefully. In the end, sorting losses were quite varied with some telling me less than 5% and others saying it cost them up to 20%.

I would take the trouble to point out that despite a general reputation for having low-ish maturities, the potential alcohols in 2021 were definitely not unusually low. Limited phenolic maturities, yes but low sugars, no. For example, consider that all of the following vintages had lower levels (some only slightly) when measured by grams of sugar per liter of must: 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013 while 2014 was only slightly above it. As such, as some reports that I have seen claim, it’s hard to argue that the fruit in 2021 was deficient in terms of potential alcohol.

In the same vein, while the reputation of the 2021 vintage is one that had very high acidities, this is not necessarily true. To be sure, acid levels were good but not particularly high and only barely higher than 2020, which is almost counterintuitive given that the two growing seasons basically couldn’t have been more different. This is at least partially explained by the fact that much of the total acidity was composed of malic acid and thus its potency is degraded through the malolactic fermentation. pH is of course a measure of this potency and in 2021, the post-malo pHs ranged between 3.15 to 3.25, which is pretty much textbook. But lest you be inadvertently led astray by the idea that acidities were excessive, be aware that some growers told me that they partially blocked the malos in order to preserve more acidity!

With respect to treating the chardonnay when it arrived at the cuverie, most growers said that they pressed slowly, using low pressures over an extended period, which in some cases means as long as 3.5 to 4 hours. This was then followed by an extended *débourbage* (lees settling regimen) so as to be sure that they were working with very clean musts. This was particularly true for fruit that had been attacked by oidium as off odors and flavors are a nasty consequence of omitting this step when required.

Depending on the grower, some allow the musts to “break” (*casser* in French), which is to say to turn some degree of brown. While somewhat counterintuitive, the idea behind this is so that the most oxidizable elements will do so and subsequently fall out of suspension. This, in concept at least, renders the must more stable and less prone to oxidation, either during the *élevage* process or later in bottle, helping to prevent premoxy.

In contrast to 2018 or 2019, few growers reported having any difficulties getting the fermentations to finish their sugars though some did note that the malolactics had trouble finishing. To this end, some wines were not presented because the malos had not yet finished, or only recently. Speaking of the alcoholic fermentations, there is no consensus in terms of the number of grams of sugar per liter to produce one degree of alcohol. Some said it was as low as 17 g/l while others said it was in the range of 17.5 to 18 g/l. Most though were at the upper end of the range, which also partially explains the generally lower level of reported alcohols in 2021.

### **The 2021 Côte d’Or Whites – A Wonderful, and Classically Styled, Old School Vintage**

As noted in the intro, the best 2021 whites are brilliant but often the better they are, the harder they’re going to be to find. While total volumes are on the order of what was produced in 2016, this is somewhat deceptive. I say this because the key difference is that in 2016, it was the regional and *villages*-level vineyards that were the worst hit. In 2021, it was the reverse, e.g., the 1ers and grand crus were hammered the hardest. Moreover, there is not only much better acidity in 2021 than in 2016, but also much less exoticism, though this is not to say none, as some ‘21s do display that character.

In contrast to the 2020 white burgundy vintage, grower opinions regarding the quality of the 2021s was quite frankly much more mixed. How much of this is actually based on the quality in the glass versus depression over the miniscule quantities and the difficulties that engenders commercially speaking, is of course hard to tease out with precision. Moreover, I have learned from long experience that growers' views regarding the success of any given vintage are strongly, and I do mean strongly, influenced by the ease, or in this case, the difficulties of the growing season. Some growers simply cannot imagine that a seriously difficult growing season, and 2021 qualifies in that regard, could produce excellent, and in some cases, brilliant wines. And to be fair to the less enthusiastic growers, even those who had more positive opinions expressed varying degrees of surprise, mixed with relief, at how well things turned out because it was, in their view, unexpected.

One of the great positives of the 2021 whites is that despite the tiny quantities, the wines are incredibly vibrant; indeed the word electric is not an overstatement. A second is how wonderfully transparent they are to the underlying terroir and in this respect they are even better than the 2020s and on a par with the 2014s. A third is how dense they are without any sense of heaviness due to the firm but not aggressive acid spines that maintain the proper balance along with laser-like delineation. A fourth is their very reasonable alcohol levels as relatively few wines came in above 13% and this obviously contributes to their appeal and drinkability. Lastly, the wines have just a touch of finishing austerity and/or bitter citrus character that harkens back to "old school" white burgundy and renders them highly refreshing. When taken together, all of these factors should provide the framework to allow the wines to successfully evolve over the mid to even longer-term

**With all that said, the 2021 whites can be, and often are, austere, compact, powerful and very tightly coiled.** I don't call it an "old school" vintage for nothing. But I wish to be clear that old school in this case comes without the less appealing aspects of too many vintages of the 1970s and 1980s that were inelegant to the point of rusticity. If ever there was an example where the modern pneumatic presses are an upgrade versus the old style cage presses, 2021 is a fitting example. Also, not all wines are so compact and backward as to be completely inaccessible young so be aware that "old school" is a generality.

Despite all of the very positive aspects of the 2021 white burgundy vintage, it's certainly not perfect. As has become increasingly the case, harvest dates could be critical as well as unforgiving. The problem though with judging quality by picking dates has a great deal to do with how much frost damage there was as this obviously had a potentially enormous effect on yields and therefore maturities. In general though, pick a few days too early and the wines are green and ungracious and borderline too acidic and a few days too late and the wines lose their bright acidities and are often mildly exotic and even ponderous due to the excellent concentrations. In the interest of clarity, when I use the term exotic, I mean it more in the vein of white peach than yellow peach, apricot, mango or lychee. This is neither a qualitative plus nor a minus, though it can detract somewhat from the overall sense of harmony as the finishes can seem borderline rustic. This raspy tannin quality eventually resolves in much the same way that they do in red burgundy though it takes time. To someone like me who insists on aging the whites that I buy, this is a positive but if your taste runs to younger whites, either because you prefer the crunchy fruit, or because you're guarding against premoxy, it may be less appealing.

Turning to the appellations and their relative merits, for perhaps the first time ever in the 23 years since I've been professionally covering the wines of Burgundy, there is no clear "winner" among the "Big 3" in terms of relative quality. If pressed, I would give the slightest of edges to Chassagne, if for no other reason that the commune suffered somewhat less damage than Puligny and Meursault. And unlike say in 2018, 2019 and 2020, the high-water table that Puligny is blessed with did it no favors in 2021 as there was no lack of water during the growing season. Meursault was variable as the south part of the commune, and especially in and around Blagny, was absolutely crushed by the frost yet the northern sector was much less affected. In short, superb wines were made in all three communes but some poor wines were made as well for all of the reasons cited above.

After the "Big 3", there were some lovely wines made pretty much everywhere, and particularly on the Hill of Corton and St. Aubin. Even in communes that are not necessarily renowned for their whites such as Auxey-Duresses, St. Romain, Pernand-Vergelesses, Ladoix and even Savigny. Ironically, the very reason that they are not necessarily known for their whites, e.g., their very cool microclimates, is what partially saved them from the frost damage as the vines were less advanced in early April when the damage occurred. In the Côte de Nuits, I found some good whites in Fixin, Morey and Marsannay though fewer than I expected in Nuits St. Georges. In fact, I would go so far as to say that given the excellent quality of the whites in the Côte de Beaune, I was moderately disappointed by what I found in the Côte de Nuits as I expected better.

Another group that flourished in 2020 but not in 2021 is the regional wines and particularly the Hautes Côtes as the frost damage was so severe that many wines were either not made, or simply not very good. This is borne out by how many examples from the Hautes Côtes that made the Burghound Top Value Selections, which is to say only four, of which there was only one from the Hautes Côte de Nuits. By contrast, there are any number of stunningly good examples of Bourgogne, both in chardonnay and aligoté. For more specifics, I refer you to the Burghound Top Value Selections for a number of excellent ideas.

While the grand crus hardly need their virtues highlighted any more than they routinely are, 2021 was particularly special in all of them with the exception of Chevalier-Montrachet as it was so badly frosted that very little was made. In fact, for those readers who are fans of producers of Chevalier who are not owners, very few of them were made as the usual big sellers made so little that they kept what little they had for themselves. Bâtard-Montrachet was mixed with some absolutely dazzling examples made and others seemed lackluster; this is to say perfectly good but not dazzling. If you're going to buy a grand cru in 2021, while the Hill of Corton did suffer badly as well, there were some fantastic wines made so to the extent that the word "value" can be applied, that's where you're going to find it.

The key takeaway though is to remember that great wines, with the exception of Blagny, which was completely destroyed, were made everywhere and at every level. I again refer readers to the Burghound Don't Miss Selections for a large number of appealing ideas. And I'm not exaggerating when I say a large number, indeed I can't remember ever recommending so many. The trick will be to find them, and if you do, paying for them so despite the very large number of recommendations, many were made in pitifully small quantities.

As to other vintages that might reasonably compare stylistically to 2021, in my view it's necessary to go all the way back to 1993 to find a real match. The 1993 whites, which I would observe have aged impeccably well, had everything that the 2021s do, especially the elements of density, acidity and youthful austerity that enabled them to stand the test of time so well. More recently, probably the best match would be 2014, though with one important distinction, which is to say density as the 2014s, lovely as they are, are not especially dense (though to be sure, they are certainly not dilute). After those potential comparisons, the '21s share at least some characteristics with all of the following vintages: 1981, 1987, 1990, 1992, 2002, 2007, 2011, 2014 and 2017 and, somewhat surprisingly, even 2020.

Vintage comparisons aside, there is no reason to believe that the better 2021s won't age exceptionally well too in the same fashion as other the classically styled vintages of the past. Most of the better *villages* wines should be at, or close, to their peaks in 6 to 10 years, the premier crus in 8 to 15 years and the grand crus at 10+. The very best wines should age gracefully for 15 to 25 years, perhaps even a bit longer.

To conclude this analysis, I pose the question that I always pose: just how good are the 2021 whites and do I need them in my cellar? The key takeaway for readers to understand is that when they are good, they are at a minimum very good, and many are indisputably brilliant. Put another way, if you have enjoyed vintages such as 2007, 2011, 2014 or 2017, you should love the 2021s. By contrast, if you prefer riper vintages such as 2015 or 2018, then I would suggest that you try a few 2021s when they become available and decide for yourself if they appeal to you. I would add that while 2021 is not as consistent as 2020 or 2017, it may well surpass both in terms of the sheer number of great whites produced. As such, my advice is simple: if you can find them, buy them.

### **2020 One Year Later – the same as originally previewed, e.g., fresh, vibrant and concentrated:**

I would characterize my in-bottle tastings of the 2020s as confirming what I tasted either from barrel or bottle last year though with a few pleasant surprises and a few that were less so. Most though were almost identical, which is to say that the average 2020 white is tension-filled and terroir-transparent with fine if not exceptional density and supporting acidity. They also tend to have lovely textures that possess that lovely balancing act between having very good richness while maintaining solid delineation. That all of these very positive attributes are the result of such a hot and dry growing season remains a mystery, albeit an agreeable one!

One of the great positives of the 2020 white burgundy vintage is that despite the generous though not actually high yields, the wines possess somewhere between very good to excellent concentration. In my view this is primarily due to the thick skins that developed to protect the fruit from excessive dehydration. And these normal plus yields had another benefit in that they helped to preserve acid levels, which is obviously a major contributing factor to the agreeably heightened sense of vibrancy and freshness. Importantly, their moderately firm acid spines coupled with these very good densities provide the framework to allow the wines to be energetic, refreshing and delineated, and to successfully evolve over the mid to longer-term. Perhaps just as importantly, the high heat did little to diminish the transparency of the underlying terroir.

At their finest, the best 2020 Côte d'Or whites are highly refined with exquisite acid/fruit/body combinations that should make them a pleasure to drink at any point in their evolution. To be sure, there are some wines that are very tightly wrapped that will certainly require at least mid-term patience but as a general rule, the wines possess sufficient mid-palate body and sap to permit early accessibility.

Another key attribute of the 2020 whites is their very reasonable alcohol levels as the vast majority of wines came in between 12.2 and 13.5%. To provide some perspective, that range is a full .5 to 1.5% lower than say 2018 or 2019. There was almost no chaptalization, or acidification for that matter. This contributes to their refreshing character and renders them a pleasure to drink, especially when it's time for the second or third glass!

Despite all of very positive aspects of the 2020 white burgundy vintage, it's not perfect as there are a few nits here and there. For one, harvest dates were critical as well as unforgiving. A few days too early and the wines are green and ungracious and borderline too acidic and a few days too late and the wines are overtly exotic and ponderous if not actually flabby. Consistent with the elevated heat levels, there are some wines, particularly those picked in the latter part of August, that can be exotic though with more in the vein of white peach and passion fruit rather than dried fruit aromas such as apricot, lychee or peach. To be sure, and clear, exoticism is not a flaw and some readers may quite enjoy them, though with that said, it's not what I personally seek in fine white burgundy.

One other aspect bears mentioning, which is that some 2020 whites give the distinct impression of being almost tannic. In past decades this could be attributed to the abundant use of new wood but in 2020, it's more a function of the thick skins I alluded to above. This is neither a qualitative plus nor a minus though it can detract somewhat from the overall sense of harmony as the finishes can seem borderline rustic. This raspy tannin quality eventually resolves in much the same way that they do in red burgundy though it takes time.

Turning to the appellations and their relative merits, as was the case in 2019, the star of the 2020 Côte d'Or vintage is Puligny, thanks mainly to its high-water table, a very useful thing in such a dry vintage as hydric stress was largely avoided. Meursault did very well too, though without question the biggest surprise was how well Chassagne performed. The commune, which is typically third among the "Big 3" in terms of relative quality, produced some stunningly good wines; indeed I found them to be basically at the same excellent level as Meursault.

After the "Big 3", there were some lovely wines made pretty much everywhere, even in communes not necessarily renowned for their whites. Importantly though, many excellent wines were fashioned in St. Aubin, Auxey-Duresses, St. Romain, Pernand-Vergelesses, Ladoix and even Savigny, thanks to their generally cooler microclimates which helped preserve acidity. In the Côte de Nuits, I found some good whites in Morey and Marsannay though fewer than I expected in Nuits St. Georges and Fixin. Another group that flourished in 2020 is the regional wines and particularly the Hautes Côtes for the very same reason, e.g., the cooler growing conditions. There are some terrific examples in both the Bourgogne and Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes, as well as Bourgogne-Aligoté.

While the grand crus hardly need their virtues highlighted any more than they routinely are, 2020 was particularly conducive to producing fantastic examples of Bâtard-Montrachet (which was, somewhat ironically, not the case in 2021). I honestly cannot remember the last time I tasted so many superb examples. By contrast, the 2020 vintage is much less interesting for Bienvenues and Criots, and while there is certainly nothing amiss, they did not as a general comment standout. Otherwise, there were a full complement of excellent wines from Chevalier and Montrachet.

In terms of cellaring, I mentioned that because the wines are so well-balanced and relatively refined, they should be accessible young. This is certainly true but there is absolutely no reason to think that the better 2020s will not age in much the same fashion as the classically styled vintages of the past. Most of the better *villages* wines should be at, or close, to their peaks in 6 to 8 years, the premier crus in 8 to 12 years and the grand crus at 10+. The very best wines should age gracefully for 15 to 25 years, perhaps even a bit longer.

The question that I always pose for readers is just how good are the 2020 whites and do I need them in my cellar? The key takeaway is that when they are good, they are at a minimum very good, and many are excellent with a not insignificant percentage of genuinely fabulous wines. In my view, the 2020s are absolutely wines to collect and age, though as always with the caveat about premature oxidation. In short, 2020 may not be a genuinely great white Burgundy vintage but it's the best since 2010 and 2014 and yes, I include 2017 in that statement.

### **Premature Oxidation Update:**

If this section seems familiar to longer-term readers, I have been writing on the subject consistently since 2002. This year however, there isn't much in the way of real change on the ground to report, other than more domaines have adopted some form of composite cork, especially for their entry level wines.

As was largely the case last year, there have been no major breakthroughs, or even claims of them, regarding premature oxidation ("premo"). That doesn't mean however that things have remained completely static as there continues to be a growing sense among both professionals and active consumers that the incidence of premo is, when taken on the whole, declining. While this is certainly a welcome development of a sort, no one is, or should be anyway, declaring victory based simply on an encouraging trend. I say this because I have encountered some premo problems with examples from 2017 and 2018, though nothing more recent than those two vintages. I confess being surprised to find several premoxed 2018s because premo typically takes 5 to 6 years to manifest.

Moreover, it's impossible to know in advance what you might find when opening a bottle, especially one with more than 5-ish or so years of age. For example, in early June (yes, 2023), I opened two bottles of 2007 sealed under natural cork from the same producer, acquired at exactly the same time and cellared irreproachably since. One was a premier cru and the other a *villages*. To my chagrin, but not really to my surprise, the former was completely shot and the latter was pristine, elegant and utterly delicious and while fully mature, still fresh and vibrant.

Such examples explain why most of the experimentation intended to combat the scourge of premo continues to focus on closures, both natural and composite. By contrast, the work on screwcaps, at least for the wines of Burgundy, seems to be slowly fading away. As I already noted, readers have undoubtedly noticed the continued, and rapidly increasing, use of composite corks, especially for entry level wines, though the percentage is climbing even at the grand cru level. The most popular of these is the Diam brand, which claims that Burgundy is now their single largest market. Despite the huge inroads in market share by the composite cork manufacturers, some producers such as Sauzet for example, have chosen to employ natural corks with a diameter of 25 mm rather than the standard 24 mm under the rationale that doing so creates a tighter seal and thus reduces the possible oxygen ingress. Another subset has chosen to buy corks exclusively made from older bark (Sauzet again uses corks from trees with growth that is a minimum of 12 years of age). The idea behind older cork bark is that it is denser and less oxygen permeable and consequently provides a better seal. Readers can also expect to see more wax (or rubberized wax) sealed bottles and particularly from those producers who have chosen to stick with natural corks.

2023 marks another year of evidence regarding the performance of composite corks and the results are mostly encouraging. I say mostly because while I have rarely come across premoed bottles where a composite cork was used. However, I do see too many bottles with unacceptable, or if not unacceptable then annoying, levels of reduction. To be fair, and with all things being equal, reduction is better than premo though with the prices being asked for top white burgundy today, we shouldn't have to settle for reduced wines as the tradeoff to avoid premo.

Importantly, we also have another year of producer familiarity with composite corks, which is a very good thing as it relates to the pre-bottling dosage of SO<sub>2</sub>. One of the problems with composite corks is that their higher level of resistance to oxygen ingress means that the level of free SO<sub>2</sub> is more slowly reduced by combination with oxygen molecules. Producers have been frankly slow to adapt their bottling routines, partially because they were paranoid (read very anxious) about the efficacy of composite corks against premo and partially because they didn't understand how long the composite corks would retain their elasticity once inserted into the bottle neck. The point is that now that there is an increasing comfort level with the results of wines stoppered with composite corks, we are beginning to see free SO<sub>2</sub> levels at the bottling come down. It is reasonable to expect that as these levels decrease so will the unacceptable level of reduction.

One aspect of composite corks that continues to provoke debate and even criticism, is whether their use should be sanctioned by producers who practice biodynamic farming principles. Some of these producers, as well as consumers for whom the notion of buying only organic wines is important, have reservations about using a cork that isn't 100% natural, which is the case for composite corks to this point. The reservation is basically grounded in the idea that if a producer does everything from A to Y as naturally as possible, it is incoherent to then have the final step of Z be "unnatural" using a cork that isn't 100% natural. To be clear, even composite corks are 95% raw cork, so the unnatural proportion of a food grade binder and microscopic plastic beads is obviously pretty small. However, many biodynamic wine producers are resistant to the idea that anything even partially synthetic should be in contact with their wines. Moreover, just because something is so-called food grade does not automatically guarantee that it is neutral from a taste perspective.

Happily, for them, a solution was developed by Diam for a product named Origine. The company's website states: "A cork closure known as Origine by Diam® incorporates a beeswax emulsion and a binder composed of 100% vegetable polyols." Effectively, this eliminates the tiny plastic beads and "food grade" adhesive used in the regular formulation. Once this product was offered to the marketplace, even at unit prices of 40 to 50% more, Burgundians have either adopted the new cork completely or have begun trials. We shall see over the next few years how well the product performs but assuming that it works as well as the "non-natural" alternative, I expect that many biodynamic and organic wine producers may well switch to it.

In sum, and unfortunately, there is nothing dispositive to report either way. Producers are well aware of the problem and Burgundy being Burgundy, each of them makes the choice that makes the most sense for them. As such, it's difficult to generalize about solutions and adoption rates. On the plus side, the problem is clearly less prominent than it was 10+ years ago though with that said, there is clearly more progress to be made. On the not so positive side, the problem is still not solved, and won't be, until the cause, or causes, are definitively identified. Worse, I still hold my breath when opening any white Burgundy, even those perfectly cellared, from 2014 or earlier, at least among those stoppered with natural cork.



## **A Brief Word of Caution**

Given that Burgundy prices, particularly in the secondary markets, continue to rise, even if more slowly over the past six to twelve months, I believe what I wrote last year about value is worth repeating. As overtly enthusiastic as I am about the 2021 whites, the tiny quantities will almost inevitably invite more speculation than there already is and thus the prices are likely to be painful.

I say this because I wish to make clear that my job, and what you pay me for, is to evaluate wine, not sell it to you. Thus, I am duly mindful that I am presenting informed advice that I hope will be both valuable and useful to you while stopping short of inadvertently encouraging said speculation. The Burgundy market is already beyond frothy enough without me adding fuel to the fire. I say this out of respect for you as my loyal and supportive subscribers, because I wish to avoid at all costs, as having it appear as though I'm over-praising matters. In sum, while you cannot go far wrong buying the Burghound Selections, it bears keeping in mind the old saying that there is always another vintage in the pipeline. Unfortunately, given the extremely small quantities produced, there is zero reason for prices to moderate. As such, be judicious and choose carefully is ultimately the best advice that I can offer.

## **A Word about the Tasting Notes:**

99% of the following Burgundy notes are based on tastings conducted from October 2022 through early March 2023; the others were tasted from bottle in the last several months in my home office. Note: finished, bottled wines are assigned scores, as these wines are market ready. Wines tasted from barrel are scored within a range, which simply reflects the reality that they are not finished, market-ready wines. The wines in the presentation boxes are listed alphabetically while the tasting notes are presented in the order that the winemaker chose to present the wines; this often is an indication as to the esteem in which the winemaker regards each wine.

**Our policy on reviewing wines is simple:** During domaine or winery visits, if a wine is presented for consideration, and it is to the best of our knowledge representative and has finished both its primary and secondary fermentations, then it is reviewed – no exceptions. So if, for example, you are looking at a range of 2020's from a specific producer and do not see a particular wine in Issue 87 or the database, it means that it was not presented for review. Importantly, it does NOT mean that it received an exceptionally poor score. Simply put, if it is not in the database, it has not been reviewed. If you do not see any wines for a particular producer in a given year in the database, then it means the wines were not reviewed – it does **NOT** mean they were reviewed but found to be uninspiring.

**Note:** Wines receiving a ➤ symbol are particularly outstanding for their respective appellations and especially merit your attention; readers should note that *grand crus* stand on their own and never receive an arrow (which is a heart symbol in the database).

## **Burghound.com 2021 Vintage Selections:**

The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$75 US; prices do of course vary from one country to another and even within those countries, they can vary widely, especially now with the fluctuation of many currencies. The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$75 Top Value wines and the generally over \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the various price points. The "Don't Miss" wines are chosen based on sheer quality alone with price or availability having no effect on their selection. The reviews for each of these selections can be found in the corresponding producer section and will also be available via the Burghound searchable database.

## Burghound.com's Top Value 2021 Whites

2021	Auxey-Duresses	Roulot	(89-92)
2021	Auxey-Duresses Vieilles Vignes	Prunier-Bonheur, Pascal	89
2021	Auxey-Duresses "Les Boutonnières"	Lafouge, Jean et Gilles	(89-92)
2021	Auxey-Duresses "Les Crais"	Prunier-Bonheur, Pascal	89
2021	Bourgogne	Leflaive, Domaine	(87-90)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Armand/Clos des Epeneaux, Comte	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Carillon, François	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Cathiard, Sylvain	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Champy	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Colin, Simon	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Confuron, Edouard	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Felettig, Henri	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Germain et Fils, Henri	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Giroud, Camille	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Heitz, Armand	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Mikulski, François	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Pernot, Paul	86
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Prudhon et Fils, Henri	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	Rollin Père et Fils	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "En Buzigny" Vieilles Vignes	Jobard, Rémi	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "Champ Forey Vieilles Vignes"	Fournier, Jean	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "La Charme Aux Prêtres"	Pataille, Sylvain	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "Clos Du Roy"	Pataille, Sylvain	(87-90)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "Les Grandes Terres"	Bitouzet-Prieur	88
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Hors Classe	Buisson-Charles	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "Les Prés Charmots"	Chevalier Père et Fils	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Raisins Dorés	Lafarge, Michel	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Ballot-Millot et Fils	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Bitouzet-Prieur	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Boillot, Maison Henri	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Carillon, François	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Colin, Simon	88
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Jobard, Antoine	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Latour-Giraud	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Maltroye, Château de la	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Matrot/Pierre Matrot, Thierry et Pascale	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Moreau, Alex	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Moreau, Benoît	88
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Morey, Thomas	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	Prieur, Jacques	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay "Condemaine"	Armand/Clos des Epeneaux, Comte	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or	Ambroise, Bertrand	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Edme	Champy	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Flavie	Amiot et Fils, Guy	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Golden Jubilee	Ente, Benoît	89
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	Bouzereau, Michel	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	Germain et Fils, Henri	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	Harbour	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	Mikulski, François	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	Pernot, Paul	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes	Jobard, Rémi	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Le Clos du Moulin"	Bouzereau, Michel	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Femelottes"	Pernot, Alvina	87
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or Hautes Coutures	Buisson-Charles	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Rue de Bois"	Pernot, Alvina	88
2021	Bourgogne "Le Haut des Champs"	Pillot, Jean-Marc	87
2021	Bourgogne "Les Hauts de la Combe"	Colin, Joseph	87

2021	Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(87-89)
2021	Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune	Rollin Père et Fils	87
2021	Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Les Vallerots"	Felettig, Henri	(86-89)
2021	Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits	Hoffmann-Jayer	(87-90)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	Chartron, Jean	90
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	Moreau, Benoît	90
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	Pillot, Jean-Marc	(90-92)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	Pillot, Paul	(90-93)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	Prudhon et Fils, Henri	91
2021	Mâcon-Verzé "Le Monté"	Leflaive, Domaine	90
2021	Marsannay – Cuvée Charlie	Audoin, Charles	(89-91)
2021	Meursault Vieilles Vignes	Buisson-Charles	(90-93)
2021	Meursault "Les Chevalières"	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(90-92)
2021	Meursault "Les Chevalières"	Jobard, Rémi	(90-92)
2021	Meursault "Les Clous"	Prunier-Bonheur, Pascal	90
2021	Meursault "Clos de Rougeots"	Lafouge, Jean et Gilles	(90-92)
2021	Meursault – Cuvée Charles Maxime	Latour-Giraud	(90-92)
2021	Meursault "Les Grands Charrons"	Bouzereau, Michel	90
2021	Meursault "Les Gruyaches"	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(90-92)
2021	Meursault "Limozin"	Germain et Fils, Henri	(90-93)
2021	Meursault "Les Luchets"	Roulot	(91-94)
2021	Meursault "Les Meix-Chavaux"	Lafouge, Jean et Gilles	(89-92)
2021	Meursault "Les Meix-Chavaux"	Roulot	(91-93)
2021	Meursault "Les Narvaux"	Latour-Giraud	(90-93)
2021	Meursault – St. Christophe	Montille, Domaine de	90
2021	Meursault "Tessons"	Buisson-Charles	(91-94)
2021	Meursault "Les Tessons"	Bouzereau, Michel	(90-92)
2021	Meursault "Les Tessons"	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(91-93)
2021	Meursault – La Vigne de 1945	Buisson-Charles	(91-93)
2021	Meursault "Les Vireuils"	Roulot	(90-93)
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "Sous Frétille" 1er	Rollin Père et Fils	92
2021	Pouilly-Fuissé	Montille, Maison de	91
2021	Pouilly-Fuissé – Terroir de Vergisson	Buisson-Charles	(90-93)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Bachelet-Monnot	(89-92)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Blain-Gagnard	91
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Boillot, Domaine Henri	91
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Carillon, François	(89-92)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Carillon, Jacques	(90-92)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Chartron, Jean	90
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	Sauzet, Etienne	90
2021	Puligny-Montrachet – Cuvée des Climats	Thomas-Collardot	(90-92)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Enseignères"	Thomas-Collardot	(90-92)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Perrières" 1er	Carillon, François	(91-93)
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune "Clos des Godeaux"	d'Ardhuy	89
2021	St. Aubin "Les Charmois" 1er	Pillot, Paul	(90-93)
2021	St. Aubin "En Montceau" 1er	Colin, Marc	(90-93)
2021	St. Aubin "Murgers des Dents de Chien" 1er	Bachelet, Jean-Claude	(91-93)
2021	St. Aubin "En Remilly" 1er	Bachelet, Jean-Claude	(91-93)
2021	St. Aubin "En Remilly" 1er	Colin, Joseph	92
2021	St. Aubin "En Remilly" 1er	Langoureau, Sylvain	92
2021	St. Aubin "En Remilly" 1er	Moreau, Benoît	(91-93)
2021	St. Aubin "Sur Le Sentier du Clou" 1er	Jobard, Antoine	(91-93)
2021	Santenay "La Comme" 1er	Maltroye, Château de la	91

## Burghound.com's "Sweet Spot" 2021 Whites

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Bachelet-Monnot	(93-95)
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Fontaine-Gagnard	94
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Morey, Thomas	94
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Morey-Coffinet	94
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Pernot, Alvina	94
2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Bachelet, Jean-Claude	(93-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Blanchot Dessus" 1er	Bachelet, Jean-Claude	(92-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Blanchot Dessus" 1er	Gagnard, Jean-Noël	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Blanchot-Dessus" 1er	Morey-Coffinet	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Boudriotte" 1er	Blain-Gagnard	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Caillerets" 1er	Colin, Joseph	94
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Caillerets" 1er	Pillot, Paul	(92-94)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"La Cardeuse" 1er	Moreau, Benoît	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	"Champ Canet" 1er	Sauzet, Etienne	(92-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Chenevottes" 1er	Colin, Simon	94
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	"Les Combettes" 1er	Sauzet, Etienne	(93-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Clos du Château de la Maltroye" 1er	Maltroye, Château de la	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Embrazées" 1er	Morey, Thomas	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"La Grande Montagne" 1er	Pillot, Paul	(93-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Grandes Ruchottes" 1er	Maltroye, Château de la	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Grandes Ruchottes" 1er	Moreau, Alex	(92-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Grandes Ruchottes" 1er	Pillot, Paul	(93-95)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Petits Clos" 1er	Gagnard, Jean-Noël	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"La Romanée" 1er	Maltroye, Château de la	94
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"La Romanée" 1er	Morey-Coffinet	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Vergers" 1er	Colin, Simon	93
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Vergers – Clos St. Marc" 1er	Pillot, Jean-Marc	(92-94)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	"Vide Bourse" 1er	Morey, Thomas	93
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Bouchard Père & Fils	(93-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Chapelle, Clos de la	93
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Colin-Morey, Pierre-Yves	(93-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Drouhin, Joseph	(92-94)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Dubreuil-Fontaine	93
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Giroud, Camille	(92-94)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Montille, Domaine de	(92-94)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Pillot, Jean-Marc	(92-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Prieur, Jacques	(92-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Rollin Père et Fils	94
2021	Corton-Vergennes	Grand Cru	Chanson Père et Fils	(92-94)
2021	Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Fontaine-Gagnard	94
2021	Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Morey, Caroline	(92-95)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet	"Les Caillerets" 1er	Bouzereau, Michel	(92-95)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Bouchard Père & Fils	(92-94)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Germain et Fils, Henri	(92-95)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Jobard, Antoine	(93-95)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Lafon, Comtes	(93-95)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Latour-Giraud	(92-94)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes" 1er	Meursault, Château de	(92-94)
2021	Meursault	"Charmes 1913" 1er	Mikulski, François	94
2021	Meursault	"Charmes Dessus" 1er	Meursault, Château de	(92-94)
2021	Meursault	"Clos des Bouchères" 1er	Roulot	(93-95)
2021	Meursault	"Clos Richemont" 1er	Boillot, Domaine Henri	93
2021	Meursault	"Genevrières" 1er	Boillot, Domaine Henri	93
2021	Meursault	"Genevrières" 1er	Latour-Giraud	(93-95)
2021	Meursault	"Genevrières" 1er	Mikulski, François	93
2021	Meursault	"Genevrières – Cuvée des Pierres" 1er	Latour-Giraud	(93-95)
2021	Meursault	"Goutte d'Or" 1er	Mikulski, François	93
2021	Meursault	In Memorium 1er	Buisson-Charles	(92-95)

2021	Meursault "A Mon Plaisir – Clos du Haut Tesson"	Roulot	(92-94)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Ballot-Millot et Fils	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Bitouzet-Prieur	94
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Bouchard Père & Fils	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Boyer-Martenot	(92-94)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Germain et Fils, Henri	(93-95)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Heitz, Armand	93
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Matrot/Pierre Matrot, Thierry et Pascale	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Perrières" 1er	Montille, Domaine de	(92-94)
2021	Meursault "Porusots" 1er	Lafon, Comtes	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Le Porusots" 1er	Roulot	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	Germain et Fils, Henri	(92-94)
2021	Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	Jobard, Antoine	(92-95)
2021	Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	Montille, Domaine de	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Cailleret" 1er	Boyer-Martenot	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clavoillon" 1er	Leflaive, Domaine	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Garenne" 1er	Pernot, Paul	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Mouchère" 1er	Boillot, Domaine Henri	94
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Pucelle" 1er	Chartron, Jean	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clos du Cailleret" 1er	Chartron, Jean	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er	Bachelet, Jean-Claude	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er	Leflaive, Domaine	(93-95)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er	Matrot/Pierre Matrot, Thierry et Pascale	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er	Prieur, Jacques	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Demoiselles" 1er	Colin, Philippe	(92-95)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières" 1er	Leflaive, Domaine	(92-95)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières – En La Richard" 1er	Sauzet, Etienne	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	Boillot, Domaine Henri	94
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	Morey, Marc	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	Pernot, Alvina	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	Pernot, Paul	94
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Referts" 1er	Morey, Marc	93
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" 1er	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" 1er	Fichet, Jean-Philippe	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" 1er	Sauzet, Etienne	(92-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "La Truffière" 1er	Morey, Thomas	94

## Burghound.com's "Don't Miss" 2021 Whites

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Blain-Gagnard	95
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Boillot, Domaine Henri	95
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Colin-Morey, Pierre-Yves	(93-96)
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Leflaive, Domaine	(95-98)
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Maltroye, Château de la	96
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Pernot, Paul	96
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Sauzet, Etienne	(93-96)
2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Leflaive, Domaine	(95-98)
2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Pernot, Paul	95
2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	Sauzet, Etienne	(93-96)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "La Dent de Chien" 1er	Maltroye, Château de la	95
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Grandes Ruchottes" 1er	Moreau, Benoît	(93-96)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "La Romanée" 1er	Pillot, Paul	(93-96)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	Colin, Bruno	(93-96)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	Leflaive, Domaine	(96-99)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	Pousse d'Or	95
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet "Clos des Chevaliers" Grand Cru	Chartron, Jean	(93-96)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	Boillot, Maison Henri	95
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	Bonneau du Martray	(93-96)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	Jadot, Louis	(93-96)



2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Pernot, Alvina	95
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Roulot, Jean-Marc	(95-97)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne	Grand Cru	Roumier, Georges	95
2021	Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	Blain-Gagnard	95
2021	Meursault "Charmes"	1er	Roulot	(94-96)
2021	Meursault "Genevrières"	1er	Jobard, Antoine	(93-96)
2021	Meursault "Genevrières"	1er	Lafon, Comtes	(93-96)
2021	Meursault "Perrières"	1er	Lafon, Comtes	(94-97)
2021	Meursault "Perrières"	1er	Roulot	(94-97)
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Boillot, Maison Henri	97
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Bouchard Père & Fils	(93-96)
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Colin, Marc	(93-96)
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Lafon, Comtes	(95-98)
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Leflaive, Domaine	(97-100)
2021	Montrachet	Grand Cru	Sauzet, Etienne	(94-97)
2021	Le Montrachet	Grand Cru	Blain-Gagnard	96
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Truffière"	1er	Ente, Benoît	95
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières – En la Richard"	1er	Ente, Benoît	96
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles"	1er	Leflaive, Domaine	(94-96)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts"	1er	Ente, Arnaud	(93-96)

## 2021 and 2020 Côte d'Or White Burgundy

### Domaine Adélie (Mercurey) – Domaines Albert Bichot

2021	Mercurey "Les Champs-Michaux"	white	88
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Please see the related Domaine Pavillon below for more information on the 2021 vintage. (Albert Bichot USA, [www.albert-bichot.com](http://www.albert-bichot.com), USA; Stannary Wine, [www.stannarywine.com](http://www.stannarywine.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Soho Wine Supply Ltd, [www.sohowine.co.uk](http://www.sohowine.co.uk), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), Inverarity Morton, [www.inveraritymorton.com](http://www.inveraritymorton.com), C & O Wines, [www.cowines.com](http://www.cowines.com), all UK).

**2021 Mercurey "Les Champs-Michaux":** (from organically farmed fruit). Ripe and vaguely exotic aromas are comprised mostly by notes of both white and yellow orchard fruit. There is a lovely sense of verve and freshness to the solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that possess better than average depth and persistence for a Mercurey *villages* white. Worth a look. 88/2025+

### Maison Bertrand Ambroise (Prémieux-Prissey)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	white	86
2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits	white	(86-89)
2021	Coteaux Bourguignons – Lettre d'Eloïse	white	86
2021	Nuits St. Georges "Les Terres Blanches"	1er	white (88-91)
2021	St. Romain	white	(87-89)

For François Ambroise's take on the 2021 vintage, please see either Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (DST Trading Company, VA, Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), NY, (most US states), both USA; Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Spicy, cool and agreeably fresh aromas of green apple and citrus rind lead to nicely rich and succulent middleweight flavors that deliver good length if only average depth on the balanced finale. This mildly austere effort should drink well upon release. 86/now+

**2021 Coteaux Bourguignons – Lettre d'Eloïse:** (100% chardonnay). Here too the expressive nose is attractively fresh with its aromas of just sliced apple, pear and a hint of orange peel. There is a lovely sense of tension to the plump, fleshy and round flavors that conclude in a dry, clean and invitingly refreshing finish. This should also drink well upon release. 86/now+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or:** A more restrained nose grudgingly offers up an array of essence of green apple, petrol and a whiff of straw. There is slightly better volume to the caressing medium weight flavors that possess slightly better depth on the linear, very dry and sneaky long finish. This is a quality Bourgogne that's worth considering. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits:** This also displays a touch of petrol character on the ultra-fresh and bright aromas of cool citrus that are trimmed in just enough wood to mention. I very much like the texture of the sappy and more mineral-inflected flavors that offer good persistence on the lemon-tinged, dry and lingering finale. Lovely. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 St. Romain:** Hints of lemon-lime, white flowers and green apple are also trimmed in subtle but perceptible oak influence. The sleek, intense and even more obviously mineral-inflected medium weight flavors display very fine length if only average depth. Even so, this possesses unusually good volume for St. Romain and with a year or two of keeping, may well develop better complexity. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Nuits St. Georges “Les Terres Blanches”:** The wood influence is no longer subtle as there is ample toast as well as a touch of vanilla to the aromas of white orchard fruit. The mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is at once generous and sappy while offering fine mid-palate density, all wrapped in a lingering if slightly woody finish. This is going to need at least a few years of keeping in order to better integrate the wood treatment. (88-91)/2025+

#### **Domaine Guy Amiot et Fils (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune “Champs Pimont” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Flavie</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bouzeron “Les Bouillottes”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault “Sous la Velle”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>NR</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Le Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Santenay Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>

Fabrice Amiot simply noted that 2021 “had its fair share of challenges, both with the April frost and with the difficult growing season. The wines though have turned out better than we thought and particularly the whites. They’re classic Burgundies with better acidities than we’ve had in several years; perhaps not since 2014.” (Michael Corso Selections, [www.corsowines.com](http://www.corsowines.com), USA; Domaine et Saveurs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), France; H & H Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), House of Townend, [www.houseoftownend.com](http://www.houseoftownend.com), Wine Source, [www.wine-source.com](http://www.wine-source.com), all UK; Mayfair Fine Wines Company Limited, [www.mayfairfinewines.com.hk](http://www.mayfairfinewines.com.hk), and Fine Vintage, [www.finevintage.com.hk](http://www.finevintage.com.hk), both Hong Kong; Authentic Wine Explorers, [www.awexplorers.com](http://www.awexplorers.com), Legacy Fine Wines, [romanee@legacyfinewine.com](mailto:romanee@legacyfinewine.com), both Singapore; Euan McKay Wine Merchant, [www.euanmckay.com.au](http://www.euanmckay.com.au), Australia).

**2021 Bouzeron “Les Bouillottes”:** An exuberantly fresh and discreetly spicy nose features notes of mostly green apple and citrus peel. The racy, delicious and crisp middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the clean, dry and lemony finale. To enjoy young but this has the stuffing to repay a few years of keeping if you enjoy your aligoté with age. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Flavie**: This too is ultra-fresh, cool and airy with its combination of white orchard fruit and lemon-lime scents. There is slightly better volume to the attractively textured and solidly concentrated flavors that offer just a bit better depth and persistence on the balanced and clean finale. 87/2024+

**2021 Santenay Vieilles Vignes**: A more subdued nose is comprised by notes of apple, pear and a whiff of mineral reduction. The sleek, detailed and lightly stony flavors also possess very good density while displaying better depth and persistence on the mildly rustic finale. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes**: Pungent aromas include those of petrol, resin, lemon zest and pretty floral top notes. There is both excellent delineation and energy to the nicely concentrated medium weight flavors that display focused power on the lingering, dry and mildly austere finale. This could use better depth but the underlying material appears up to the task. (88-90)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Sous la Velle”**: A difficult nose exhibits notes of lactic character and reduction, and both can be found on the palate as well. This will in all likelihood clean up, but it would be fair to say that it's impossible to accurately judge in this condition. Not Rated.

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”**: Airy, cool and elegant aromas are composed by aromas of various white orchard fruit, citrus rind and a touch of acacia blossom. There is a lovely sense of tension to the chiseled and crisp middleweight flavors that flash evident minerality on the very dry, focused and sneaky long if not especially complex finale. A few years of patience should prove to be beneficial in terms of adding better depth. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Beaune “Champs Pimont”**: This is aromatically relatively similar to the En Remilly though with a touch more floral influence. The richer and borderline opulent medium-bodied flavors coat the palate with dry extract that is nicely buffered by the moderately firm citrus-tinged acid spine. Here too a few years of patience should prove helpful in terms of adding better depth. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles”**: (from 25+ year old vines planted in deep clay on SO<sub>4</sub> rootstock). Cool and layered aromas of petrol, resin and essence of pear precede the nicely voluminous middleweight flavors that are also succulent and concentrated while displaying reasonably good length on the agreeably dry if slightly tangy finale. Five or so years of keeping should see this at or near its peak. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains”**: This is also quite cool with slightly more elegant aromas of spicy citrus, green apple and floral scents that are trimmed in moderate wood. There is fine richness to the medium-bodied flavors thanks to the solid mid-palate density that also imparts a caressing and seductive mouthfeel to the bitter lemon-inflected finale. This sneaky long effort could use better depth, but more should develop if given a chance. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers”**: (from 70+ year old vines on original chardonnay plant material - Amiot calls this *le vrai chardonnay* or the true chardonnay). Once again there is enough wood in evidence on the layered nose of white fleshed fruit, petrol and exotic citrus to merit pointing out. There is even better richness to the suave and rounded medium weight flavors that coat the palate with dry extract while exhibiting fine length on the bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. This compact effort definitely needs at least a few years of patience. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean”**: Moderate wood and reduction dominate the nose save for a background touch of petrol character. Otherwise, there is good vibrancy but not the same mid-palate density of the best in the range and the citrusy finish, while attractively clean, crisp and dry, doesn't have quite the same persistence either (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”**: (from two parcels totaling .75 ha; one of 30+ year old vines and another of 70+ year old vines planted on *le vrai chardonnay*). Here too pungent aromas of moderate wood influence and reduction push the fruit to the background. More interesting are the powerful and solidly dense medium-bodied flavors that possess a seductive, even lush, mouthfeel before concluding in a moderately austere, dry and stony finish. This too could use better depth but more should develop if given 6 to 10 years of cellaring. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles”**: (from a .3 ha parcel planted in 1970). Moderate wood stops short of fighting with the airy, cool and more floral-suffused aromas of spiced citrus. The succulent, concentrated and seductively textured middleweight flavors flash focused power and a more discreet minerality on the lemony, very dry and more persistent finale. This firm effort could also use more depth, but this wine has an excellent aging track record. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Le Montrachet:** (from two tiny parcels of vines on the Chassagne side totaling only .09 ha planted in 1923 that have never been worked by tractor because the slope is so steep and thus the vines are tended manually. Planted entirely to *le vrai chardonnay* and the parcels are part of the old Dents de Chien vineyard that were included as part of Montrachet as a result of an agreement reached in Beaune in 1921). Here the wood is sufficiently prominent to fight somewhat with the even spicier aromas of acacia blossom, essence of pear and softly exotic tea. The gorgeously textured, powerful and concentrated larger-bodied flavors coat the palate with dry extract while displaying excellent persistence on the very dry, balanced and lemon-tinged finish where the wood slowly reemerges. This decidedly compact effort is very promising. (92-95)/2031+

#### **Domaine Amiot-Servelle (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>Bourgogne Côte d'Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
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For Christian and Prune Amiot's view of the 2020 vintage, please see the Burghound database. (No known US importer; Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com), UK; The Fine Wine Experience, [www.finewineexperience.com](http://www.finewineexperience.com), Hong Kong, China).

**2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** A vague hint of exotic fruit lurks in the background of the aromas of white peach, petrol and admirably discreet oak. There is very good freshness to the appealingly textured flavors that conclude in a lemony and very dry, crisp and sneaky long if mildly rustic finish. This refreshing effort should drink well shortly after its release. 86/2024+

#### **Domaine Marquis d'Angerville (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault "Santenots" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for Guillaume d'Angerville's thoughts on the 2021 vintage as well as for reviews of his outstanding 2021 reds. Specifically about the whites, he noted that volumes were off a catastrophic 90%! (Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com) and Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A touch of post-bottling reduction lurks in the background of the fresh and cool aromas of mostly citrus, spice and green apple. There is fine energy to the nicely detailed middleweight flavors that culminate in a clean, crisp and agreeably dry finale. I would suggest giving this one to two years of cellar time in the hopes better depth will develop. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Exuberantly fresh aromas include those of pear, acacia, green apple and lemon rind where the latter is picked up by the racy and delicious flavors that also possess fine volume before terminating in an equally clean and dry finale that offers just a bit more depth. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Meursault "Santenots":** (from a parcel of 30+ year old vines in Les Plures; in 2021, the yield was 2 barrels instead of 20! D'Angerville noted that this will be bottled mostly in magnum). This is also aromatically very fresh with its combination of petrol, citrus, spice and essence of pear. There is better volume and mid-palate density to the seductively textured but decidedly punchy medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a nicely dry and youthfully austere finale. This should age effortlessly and note that my suggested initial drinking window is for 750 ml. I would add another 5 to 7 years for this wine in magnum format. (89-91)/2028+

### Domaine d'Ardhuy (Corgoloin)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Les Perrières"	white	(86-89)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	92
2021	Ladoix	white	88
2021	Ladoix – Cuvée Dolia	white	88
2021	Ladoix "Le Rognet" 1er	white	90
2021	➔ Savigny-lès-Beaune "Clos des Godeaux"	white	89

The always thoughtful *régisseeur* (estate manager) Vincent Bottreau runs this very large 39.5 ha domaine of which the holdings are divided between 7.5 ha in chardonnay and 32 ha devoted to pinot noir. He described the 2021 vintage as one that was "seriously challenging though one that, in the end, produced wines that are completely Burgundian in style. The worst problem was of course the three nights of frost that hit us between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> of April. We protected what we could but even so, the Hill of Corton in particular was just devastated and we produced less than 10 hl/ha there! As if this wasn't bad enough, cryptogamic disease pressure was very strong thereafter, and in particular oidium, as the vines were definitely weakened by the frost. We managed to get to the harvest and picked between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of September. A severe sorting was necessary and in doing so we lost another 10% of the crop. In the end, we realized the equivalent of about 25 hl/ha in red and roughly 20 hl/ha in white. We did a bit better in the Côte de Nuits compared to the Côte de Beaune as it's less precocious and thus the frost did less damage. The potential alcohols averaged right at 12.5% and I used no whole clusters as I was worried they might impart a vegetal character. The *élevage* really helped as the wines have improved from month to month. Among recent vintages, 2017 is probably the one that mostly resembles 2021 from a stylistic point of view." (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.leserbet.com](http://www.leserbet.com), Beaune, France Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, both USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Les Perrières":** Cool and airy aromas include those of straw, citrus and petrol. There is unusually good richness for a Hautes-Côte white to the concentrated and punchy flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the clean, dry and mildly rustic finale. This is really quite good for its level and worth considering. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Ladoix – Cuvée Dolia:** There is a vague whiff of the exotic lingering in the background of the aromas of white and yellow fresh, citrus confit and subtle floral wisps. There is excellent richness to the lush and generously proportioned medium weight flavors that possess just enough acidity and verve to maintain the balance. This should drink well young. 88/2024+

**2021 Ladoix:** (from Les Chaillots, Chagnots and Les Combettes; contains ~25% pinot blanc). This is aromatically similar to the Cuvée Dolia with perhaps just a bit more layering. There is equally good richness and punch though not quite the same detail to the medium-bodied flavors that are also supported by bright acidity on the lingering finale where the only nit is a hint of warmth. 88/2024+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune "Clos des Godeaux":** (from the *villages* portion of the vineyard). Here too there is a suggestion of the exotic suffusing the aromas of white peach, dried apricot and orange peel. There is again excellent richness to the density and palate soaking flavors that flash evident minerality on the bitter lemon, clean and sneaky long finale. This is forward but also quite good for its level and worth considering, especially since it could easily be enjoyed young. 89/2024+

**2021 Ladoix "Le Rognet":** (a monopole of the domaine). Once again there is a suggestion of the exotic to the white and yellow peach, spice and petrol aromas. There is better energy to the impressively rich and generous medium-bodied flavors that display solid depth and persistence on the noticeably firmer finale. While the richness will permit early drinkability, there is sufficient development potential to repay a few years of keeping. 90/2026+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a total of 1.8 ha in the *climats* of Les Languettes, Les Pougets and Le Rognet). Aromas of white peach, green apple, citrus rind and apricot also reflect a subtle exoticism. There is impressive mid-palate density to the rich, powerful and opulent large-bodied flavors that possess a borderline plush texture, all wrapped in a citrus, clean, dry and compact finale. At least a few years of keeping should be beneficial in the hopes that more depth will progressively develop. 92/2028+



### Domaine Comte Armand/Clos des Epeneaux (Pommard)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay “Condemaine”	white	87

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for *régisseur* Paul Zinetti's comments on the 2021 vintage. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA/RI/NH and Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, all USA; Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Farthinghoe Fine Wine, [www.farthinghoefinewine.com](http://www.farthinghoefinewine.com), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), and The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), all UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay “Condemaine”:** (there is a proportion of chardonnay-muscaté in the blend). As one would expect given the presence of the chardonnay-muscaté, there is hint of exoticism to the cool and airy aromas of white fleshed fruit. There is both good richness and punch to the succulent middleweight flavors that are supported by bright by not drying acidity on the inviting an lingering finish. This is very good for its level and worth considering. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Bright and fresh aromas include those of just sliced citrus, spice and green apple. The beautifully detailed flavors are not quite as dense but they're even more energetic while terminating in a bone-dry yet not really austere finale. This is also quite good for its level and worth checking out. 87/2024+

### Domaine Charles Audoin (Marsannay la Côte)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes	white	(86-88)
2021	➔ Marsannay – Cuvée Charlie	white	(89-91)

Please see Issue 89 or the database for Cyril Audoin's view of the 2021 vintage. Audoin did add that for the whites he did no lees stirring. (Martine's Wines, [www.martineswines.com](http://www.martineswines.com), CA, USA; Clark Foyster Wines Ltd, [www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk](http://www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk) and Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), both UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Hong Kong/China).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes:** (from Marsannay vines planted in 1923). An exuberantly spicy and fresh nose speaks of green apple and citrus elements where the latter can also be found on the delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors that terminate in highly refreshing, clean and dry finale that offers good if not special depth and persistence. This well-made effort should drink well after only a year or so of bottle aging. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay – Cuvée Charlie:** (from Les Etalles, Les Crais, Les Recilles and Le Poisiet). This is also quite fresh if not quite as spicy with its aromas of citrus confit, apple and discreet wood nuances. There is by contrast better density and minerality to the equally energetic medium weight flavors that deliver better persistence on the youthfully austere and notably firmer finale. Worth considering. (89-91)/2026+

### Domaine Jean-Claude Bachelet (Gamay)

2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(93-95)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(86-88)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus” 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Boudriotte” 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Encégnières”	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles” 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Aubues”	white	(89-92)

2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Sous le Puits” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	St. Aubin “1er” 1er	white	(88-91)
2021	St. Aubin “Les Champlots” 1er	white	(90-92)
2021	St. Aubin “Le Charmois” 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	St. Aubin “Les Frionnes” 1er	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ St. Aubin “Murgers des Dents de Chien” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er	white	(91-93)

Brothers Benoît and Jean-Baptiste Bachelet, who farm around 10 ha, called 2021 “yet another vintage with extremely low yields due to frost damage though at least we did slightly better than was the case in 2016. This is to say that we were ‘only’ off 60% in 2021 whereas we were down 70% in 2016! But kidding aside, the 2021 growing season was frankly a bear to manage as there was of course the frost that fragilized the wines, which was followed by intense disease pressure so we were constantly scrambling to protect the vines. In the end, we began picking on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and brought in around 25 hl/ha in pinot but the yields for the St. Aubin whites were so low as to be pretty depressing. Potential alcohols though were actually pretty good, especially for St. Aubin, as they ranged from a low of 12.5% to a high of 13.7%. Overall, the quality is surprisingly good but it will be okay with us if we never see another growing season like 2021!” I would add that this is a fantastic set of 2021s of which any number of wines are absolutely worthy of your interest. (Bowler, [www.bowlerwine.com](http://www.bowlerwine.com), NY, Scott Levy Selections, 770.730.0361, GA, Elite Wines Imports, 703.339.8150, VA, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** This could be from no other variety than aligoté with its ultra-fresh citrus, spice and green apple scents that are trimmed in hints of petrol. There is solid density and a subtle minerality to the delicious flavors that conclude in a clean, crunchy and nicely dry finale where a touch of austerity emerges. This should drink well young but also be capable of repaying a few years of keeping too. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Moderate reduction dominates the nose today but there is fine concentration to the caressing and punchy middleweight flavors that display slightly better depth on the chiseled and bone-dry finale where a similar touch of youthful austerity also emerges. This lemony and utterly delicious effort is quite good and worth considering. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin “1er”:** (from 4 different 1ers). A distinctly cool nose combines notes of green apple and petrol with those of just sliced lemon and mineral reduction. There is both lovely concentrated and an almost pungent minerality to the vibrant medium weight flavors that deliver excellent length on the lemony, bone-dry and sneaky long finale. Note that this is sufficiently firm as to require at least a few years of patience. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Frionnes”:** Firm reduction pushes the fruit to the background. More interesting are the even more mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that possess excellent volume while displaying excellent length on the markedly austere and very dry finale. While possessing fine development potential, this is not a wine that will likely drink well in its youth, so patience strongly advised. Moreover, the austerity is sufficiently pronounced that this won’t be for everyone. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Champlots”:** Smoky and cool aromas are comprised by notes of acacia blossom, green apple and lemon-lime. Once again there is excellent volume and mid-palate sap to the caressing yet quite punchy flavors that culminate in a citrusy, bone-dry and chiseled finish. Here too at least some patience would be beneficial. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Le Charmois”:** Firm reduction renders the nose unreadable. More interesting are the round, supple and sappy medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by markedly citrus-tinged acidity on the equally dry though not quite as youthfully austere finale. This too should repay moderate keeping as it’s tightly coiled today. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** Here too firm reduction dominates everything except a whiff of citrus character. There is both good volume and mid-palate density to the impressively intense middleweight flavors that exude an almost pungent minerality on the sappy, beautifully long and well-balanced finale. This beauty does need to develop better depth but the potential to do so appears to be present. Lovely and worth your interest. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 St. Aubin “Murgers des Dents de Chien”:** Once again the nose reveals nothing but there is good freshness to the plump but punchy medium weight flavors that also exude a borderline pungent minerality on the moderately austere, clean, agreeably dry and lingering finish. This also offers fine development potential and is worth considering. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Encégnères”:** At the risk of sounding like a broken record, this is also firmly reduced though the reductive funk contrasts markedly with the bright and fresh middleweight flavors that are less mineral-driven but are even denser and clearly more powerful, indeed it is not an exaggeration to describe it as a smaller-scaled Bâtard. This is absolutely terrific for its level and **highly recommended**. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles”:** Reduction. The mouthfeel of the utterly delicious and vibrant medium weight flavors is noticeably finer though there isn’t quite the same mid-palate density, all wrapped in a succulent, sappy and clean finale where a touch of youthful austerity slowly emerges. Lovely and understated in style. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Boudriotte”:** (from 60+ year old vines in Les Chaumes). Cool, airy and layered aromas include those of green apple, citrus confit and acacia blossom. The succulent but overtly powerful, even muscular, flavors that possess a highly seductive texture before concluding in a bitter lemon-inflected finish. Like several wines in the range, this could use better depth so some patience should be beneficial. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Aubues”:** (Les Aubues is a small enclave entirely within Les Enseignères). This is also cool and airy with its mix of green apple, spice, floral and crushed fennel nuances. The succulent, intense and caressing medium-bodied flavors flash good power while displaying fine length on the lemony and bone-dry finale. This balanced effort would benefit from developing better depth but that should reasonably happen. Worth your interest. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Sous le Puits”:** Firm reduction dominates the fruit. The wonderfully textured, intense and markedly mineral-driven flavors possess a more sophisticated mouthfeel while exhibiting a bracing salinity on the bone-dry, lemony and balanced finale. This is very firm and a wine that is going to need at least 5 to 7 years to become sufficiently civilized to enjoy. With that said, this lovely effort possesses excellent development potential. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a purchase of must that will be labeled under the name of Benoît and Jean-Baptiste Bachelet). This is also cool, pure and airy with its essence of green apple, mineral reduction and acacia blossom nose. The delicate but almost painfully intense middleweight flavors conclude in a chiseled, balanced, bone-dry and hugely long finish. This is pretty much a textbook Combettes of class and grace. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus”:** (from vines planted in 1927). Firm reduction dominates the nose. As is always the case, there is outstanding density and power to the big-bodied flavors that coat the palate with dry extract that also buffers the firm acid spine shaping the strikingly long, balanced and driving finish. This is potentially stunning. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a tiny .0942 ha parcel). Exceptionally pretty aromas of honeysuckle, acacia blossom and lilac combine with those of lemon-lime, spice and pear. The notably finer if significantly less powerful medium-bodied flavors possess a caressing but punchy mouthfeel while flashing focused power on the gorgeously long finish where the only nit is a hint of warmth. This is also potentially stunning and very classy. (93-95)/2033+

#### **Domaine Bachelet-Monnot (Dezize-lès-Maranges)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Côte d’Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Les Maranges “La Fussière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Clos du Cromin”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>

Brothers Marc and Alex Bachelet have taken the area under production from 6 ha in 2005 to an impressive 22 ha today. This is spread over approximately 20 appellations that produce around 100,000 bottles annually, evenly split between red and white, though that certainly was not the case in 2021. The brothers noted that the growing season was “particular, which is to say difficult but manageable. We had varying degrees of frost damage as we pruned late but it’s impossible to prune everything late so hence the varying degrees of damage. For example, Santenay and the Puligny 1ers were absolutely killed, while the Bâtard, which was better protected, lost ‘only’ 50%. Moreover, the disease pressure was just nasty and we were constantly treating the vines. The mildew and oidium were the worst though we had less trouble with botrytis. We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and brought in yields that varied from a low of 12 hl/ha to a high of 30 hl/ha, with an average of about 25 hl/ha. Potential alcohols for the pinot ranged from 11.8 to 12.2% and the chardonnay came in between 12 and 12.5%. We did absolutely no punching down during a short cuvaizon of only 10 days where we used no whole clusters as we thought it better

to vinify lightly. It's ironic in that we initially thought that the wines, especially the reds, would be awful but in fact, they're really quite good. Not great but more than respectable. For the whites, we did no lees stirring per se but we did use a lot of lees during the *élevage* for 12 months in barrel before transferring them to tank where they will sit for another 6 months. In contrast to the reds which are good to very good, the whites appear to be excellent and may offer some very positive surprises with age." (A Roy Cloud Selection for Vintage '59 Imports, [www.vintage59.com](http://www.vintage59.com), Washington, D.C.; Davy & Co, [www.davy.co.uk](http://www.davy.co.uk), Decorum, [www.decvin.co.uk](http://www.decvin.co.uk), Averys, [www.averys.com](http://www.averys.com), Tanners Wines, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), Adnams & Co, [adnams.co.uk](http://adnams.co.uk), Harrods Limited, [www.harrods.com/food-and-wine](http://www.harrods.com/food-and-wine), Bowes Wines, [www.boweswines.co.uk](http://www.boweswines.co.uk), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Dudley-Jones, [www.dudleyjonesfinewine.co.uk](http://www.dudleyjonesfinewine.co.uk), Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com), Vineyards Direct, [www.fromvineyardsdirect.com](http://www.fromvineyardsdirect.com), UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** (from parcels in both Puligny and Chassagne). There is enough reduction to push the fruit to the background. There is impressive richness and volume to the delicious flavors that are blessed with plenty of sappy dry extract on the lemon, clean and dry finale. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Les Maranges "La Fussière":** A discreet application of wood sets off pretty floral and pear aromas that are trimmed in subtle citrus wisps. There is even better richness to the more obviously mineral-inflected middleweight flavors that deliver reasonably good depth and persistence on the nicely balanced if mildly rustic finale that is supported by lemon-tinged acidity. (87-90)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from several different *lieux-dits* but mostly from Carrières and Pot Bois). Pungent aromas of resin, petrol and reduction precede bigger-bodied and solidly concentrated flavors that deliver better depth and length on the equally rustic finale that is sufficiently structured to suggest that 5 to 8 years of keeping should be beneficial. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from Les Meix, Houlières, Corvée des Vignes and Le Noyer Bret). Firm reduction blocks an analysis of the nose today. By contrast, there is a really lovely sense of underlying tension to the dense and relatively powerful middleweight flavors that are succulent yet nicely detailed while retaining the innate refinement of a Puligny. This is an excellent *villages* that is well worth your consideration. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault "Clos du Crouin":** This is also firmly reduced and revealing nothing save for a touch of wood toast. There is excellent density and power to the larger-scaled flavors that display the robustness typical of Clos du Crouin on the clean, dry and persistent finish that is borderline tannic. This is also very good for its level though it is clearly less refined. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts":** Pungent aromas of oak toast, reduction and lemon zest precede the finer and beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors that possess first-rate mid-palate density as they coat the mouth with sappy dry extract while displaying lovely balance, on the classy, clean, crisp and well-balanced finale. Excellent. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières":** (from a parcel in Ez Folatières near Truffières). Firm reduction. There is more evident minerality if not the same mid-palate density to the rich but not really generous medium weight flavors that possess an even more refined texture that carries over to the bone-dry, balanced and sneaky long finish. Note that this is sufficiently firm to easily repay a decade plus of keeping. This too is excellent. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .1464-ha parcel on the Puligny side planted to the equivalent of a 15,000 vines per hectare density; the wine sees no new wood and is aged in 1 and 2-year-old 350-liter barrels). Firm reduction. The denser and more powerful broad-shouldered flavors possess almost painful intensity while retaining excellent delineation on the moderately austere, harmonious and compact finale that exhibits outstanding length. This is packed with upside development potential and is a wine that's going to need at least 6 to 8 years of patience and should amply reward 12 to 15. (93-95)/2033+

### **Domaine Ballot-Millot et Fils (Meursault)**

2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot – Tête du Clos" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Criots"	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Narvaux"	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Perrières" 1er	white	(92-95)

Charles Ballot directs this old line domaine of 11.5 ha, of which 75% of the production is white. Ballot describes the 2021 vintage as “having produced relatively classically styled wines despite a huge number of problems that obviously included frost, a poor flowering and terrible disease pressure that plagued us almost from start to finish. I chose to pick beginning on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and, depending on the sector, yields were basically off in the 75 to 80% range. The chardonnay was quite clean and required almost no sorting, though the pinot did have some botrytis that had to be eliminated. One positive in all of this is that because we prune relatively late, I was able to work exclusively with the first generation of fruit, which obviously helps enormously with maturities. This is reflected in the solid potential alcohols as everything came in between 12.5 and 13.5%. There was no new wood for the whites and almost none for the reds. Overall, I am really surprised by the quality of the wines and particularly so with the whites. The reds are somewhat like a denser 2007 and the whites like a denser 2014.” As the ratings and comments clearly confirm, the Ballot 2021 whites are absolutely stunning and very much worthy of your interest. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY (NY/NJ/PA), all USA; Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Thorman Hunt & Co., e-mail: [Camille@thormanhunt.co.uk](mailto:Camille@thormanhunt.co.uk) and Georges Barbier, all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (80% of the fruit is from Meursault with the remainder from Puligny). Very pretty and fresh aromas are comprised mostly by notes of white flower and citrus along with apple hints. There is both good richness and vibrancy to the admirably concentrated medium weight flavors that conclude in a balanced, youthfully austere and moderately dry finale. This is an outstanding Bourgogne and **highly recommended**. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Les Pelles, Les Corbins, Peutes Vignes and Chaumes de Narvaux). A mild touch of reduction blurs the nuances of the very fresh white-fleshed orchard fruit, nut and floral scents. There is better size, weight and richness to the solidly density and powerful middleweight flavors that are shaped by citrus-tinged acidity on the delicious, complex and sneaky long finale. This is also very good for its level and unusually powerful for a Meursault *villages*. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Les Criots”:** Here too there is just enough reduction to push the underlying fruit to the background save for a hint of the exotic. The sleeker and finer medium-bodied flavors are not quite as powerful or concentrated but they do flash more evident minerality on the well-detailed, balanced and lingering finish. This is an excellent *villages* and one that should amply repay 5 to 8 years of keeping. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Les Narvaux”:** (Ballot noted that this was crushed by the frost and that it will be bottled exclusively in magnum). Moderately firm and markedly smoky reduction renders the nose impossible to judge today. More interesting are the impressively dense, sappy and impressively scaled medium weight flavors that display excellent power on the palate coating, focused and youthfully austere finale. This is also an excellent *villages* and strongly worth considering. Note that the suggested initial drinking window reflects the large format bottling. (90-92)/2036+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Tête du Clos”:** (from a .22 ha holding). Here too the resin-inflected nose is firmly reduced. By contrast, there is excellent freshness and vibrancy to the strikingly textured, dense and powerful broad-shouldered flavors deliver excellent depth and persistence. This isn’t a wine of refinement, but it is nonetheless impressive and a wine that should age well. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from a .36 ha parcel in Charmes Dessus that abuts Puligny). Firm reduction. As one would expect, there is a more sophisticated mouthfeel to the rich, voluminous and equally strikingly textured medium-weight flavors that aren’t as powerful, but they are notably finer on the bitter lemon-inflected finish. This could use better depth but the length is already impressive. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** (from a .47 ha holding). Elegant, cool and pure aromas are comprised by notes of citrus, acacia and pear that are nuanced by hints of exotic tea. The finer but not denser middleweight flavors do flash more evident minerality on the chiseled, very dry and impressively long finale. This is extremely classy and impeccably well-balanced and should age accordingly. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** This possesses the most floral-suffused nose in the range with its notes of citrus peel, crushed fennel and mineral reduction. The sleek and beautifully delineated medium weight flavors brim with the hallmark minerality of a fine Perrières that concludes in a chiseled, bone-dry and superbly persistent finish. This beauty is textbook. (92-95)/2031+



### Domaine Roger/Joseph Belland (Santenay)

2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos Pitois” 1er	white	92
2021	Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	94
2021	➔ Meursault “Santenots” 1er	white	91
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Champs Gain” 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Santenay “Beauregard” 1er	white	91
2021	Santenay “Comme Dessus”	white	88

Roger Belland commented that 2021 gave us a “decidedly strange growing season and particularly so here in Santenay. We suffered from the frost like everyone but we also had quite a bit more rain than the surrounding communes, which complicated dealing with the relatively intense disease pressure. We often pick late and I chose to pick very late in 2021, which means we didn't start until the 27<sup>th</sup> of September. Despite having started later than most domaines, we didn't really suffer from late season botrytis as the fruit was relatively clean with very good potential alcohols that varied between 12 and 13%. Yields though were another story as we were off fully two-thirds overall and even worse in white. For example, we realized only 8 hl/ha in Champs Gain! We did a moderately light vinification using only modest amounts of whole clusters during a cuvaision of about three weeks. As to the style of the wines, the reds remind me somewhat of the 2011s while the whites are like better 2013s or 2017s.” (T. Edwards Wines, [www.tedwardwines.com](http://www.tedwardwines.com), NY, USA; Berkmann Wine Cellars, [www.berkmann.co.uk](http://www.berkmann.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Liberty Wines, [www.libertywine.co.uk](http://www.libertywine.co.uk) all UK - Note that the exact same wines are sold under the Joseph Belland label, which is represented by Cellar Door Selections, [www.cellardoorselections.com](http://www.cellardoorselections.com), MD, USA).

**2021 Santenay “Comme Dessus”:** Pretty and airy aromas include those of citrus confit, petrol and a mix of apple and pear nuances. There is both good volume and density to the opulent yet energetic middleweight flavors that culminate in a clean, dry and sneaky long finish where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. 88/2025+

**2021 Santenay “Beauregard”:** A slightly cooler nose speaks of green apple, lemon zest and a floral top note. There is excellent precision and very good density to the more obviously mineral-suffused flavors that display even better length on the youthfully austere and lemony finale. Worth checking out. 91/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos Pitois”:** A beautifully layered nose offers up its combination of white orchard, fruit, resin, petrol and ripe citrus. There is impressive concentration to the caressing and generously proportioned but powerful medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract on the balanced finale. This could use better depth, but more should develop if it's given a few years of keeping. 92/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Champs Gain”:** (from a parcel near Dents de Chien in St. Aubin). Cooler and more elegant aromas are comprised by notes of acacia blossom, mineral reduction, petrol and a whiff of white peach. The rich, concentrated and unusually powerful medium weight plus flavors also brim with sappy dry extract and notably more minerality, all wrapped in a seductive yet quite punchy finish where the supporting acidity reflects a touch of citrus. This too could use a bit more depth but more should almost certainly develop. 92/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Santenots”:** (from a .25 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines in Les Plures). Here too the airy nose is really quite pretty with its mix of green apple, acacia blossom and various white fleshed fruit aromas. There is again excellent concentration to the powerful and very rich middleweight flavors that are less refined and mineral driven but deliver excellent depth and persistence on the bone-dry but not really austere finale. At least some patience advised. 91/2028+

**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .62 ha parcel of 25 to 40+ year old vines). A vague suggestion of the exotic can be found on the spicy and markedly floral-suffused nose of orange zest, white peach and apricot. The big-bodied flavors are rich to the point of opulence while displaying impressive power on the serious, youthfully austere, compact and linear finish. This is packed with development potential and a wine that should age gracefully for years. 94/2031+

### Domaine de Bellene (Beaune)

2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or “Clos de la Chapelle”	white	(85-87?)
2021	Côte de Nuits-Villages “Les Monts de Boncourt”	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Coteaux Bourguignons – L'Eclot des Abeilles	white	(86-89)
2021	Meursault “Les Forges”	white	(88-90)

2021	St. Romain Vieilles Vignes	white	87
2021	Santenay "Les Charmes Dessus"	white	(88-91)
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune	white	(86-89)

Please see Issue 90 for Nicolas Potel's general view of the 2021 vintage. The wines will be bottled using the Diam brand composite cork. Note that the *négociant* offerings are reviewed immediately below under the Roche de Bellene label. (Loosen Bros. USA, [www.loosenbrosusa.com](http://www.loosenbrosusa.com), OR, USA; Fine + Rare Wines Ltd., [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), and Graham Gardner through Folly Wines, [www.follywines.co.uk](http://www.follywines.co.uk), all UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, [www.imperatrice.com.hk](http://www.imperatrice.com.hk), Hong Kong/China).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Clos de la Chapelle":** Reductive aromas overshadow the fruit and while there is an attractive mouthfeel to the plump and round flavors, there is a curious aftertaste that is enough to be bothersome, at least to my sensibilities. To be sure, this may well clean up once it's prepared for the bottling but that isn't a guarantee. (85-87?)/2024+

**2021 Coteaux Bourguignons – L'Éclos des Abeilles:** Fresh and cool aromas are composed by notes of green apple, petrol and a hint of beeswax. The racy and delicious flavors possess excellent definition that carries over to the bitter lemon, rustic and youthfully austere finale that offers solid depth and persistence and particularly so for what this is. Lovely. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 St. Romain Vieilles Vignes:** Even cooler aromas grudgingly reveal notes of just sliced green apple, plenty of citrus and discreet floral whiffs. The unusually rich and generously proportioned flavors exude evident minerality while exhibiting acceptable persistence on the lemony and nicely dry if not especially complex finale. 87/2025+

**2021 Côte de Nuits-Villages "Les Monts de Boncourt":** This is the first wine to display any appreciable wood and here it's sufficiently subtle as to allow the vaguely exotic aromas of apricot, white peach and floral scents to be appreciated. There is slightly better volume to the medium-bodied flavors that also terminate in a lemon and dry finish where a touch of rusticity emerges. A year or two of keeping should be beneficial in the hopes that more depth will develop. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune:** Here too there is some wood though in this case it's more subtle on the essence of pear, petrol and citrus confit-scented nose. There is good vibrancy to the nicely detailed and delicious medium weight flavors that also flash a touch of rusticity on the lingering if somewhat one-dimensional finish. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Santenay "Les Charmes Dessus":** Very fresh and ripe aromas express notes of various white orchard fruit, floral and petrol that are also trimmed in just enough wood to comment on. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the stony, well-detailed and attractively textured flavors that deliver very good if not truly exceptional depth and persistence. Note that this is sufficiently forward to be approachable early on. (88-91)/2025+

**2021 Meursault "Les Forges":** Firm reduction blocks an evaluation of the nose though the palate impression of the middleweight flavors is fresh and bright with an agreeable texture while displaying reasonably good length on the clean, dry and youthfully austere finish that would also benefit from having a bit more depth. (88-90)/2026+

#### **Maison Roche de Bellene (Beaune)**

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(91-94)
2021	Bourgogne-Réserve	white	86
2021	Meursault "Les Charmes" 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	white	(91-93)

Please see the introduction to Domaine de Bellene above for further information. Note that all of the wines either are, or will be, bottled unfined and unfiltered under Diam brand composite cork that are stamped with the relevant information that includes producer, vintage and appellation. (Loosen Bros. USA, [www.loosenbrosusa.com](http://www.loosenbrosusa.com), OR, USA; Fine + Rare Wines Ltd., [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), and Graham Gardner through Folly Wines, [www.follywines.co.uk](http://www.follywines.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne-Réserve:** Fresh aromas include those of just sliced pear, lemon zest and petrol. The rich, juicy and caressing flavors possess an appealing vibrancy while exhibiting reasonable depth and persistence on the clean and agreeably dry finale. To enjoy young. 86/2024+

**2021 Meursault “Les Charmes”:** More elegant aromas of mineral reduction, acacia blossom and a whiff of spice introduce more concentrated and refined middleweight flavors that possess a lovely texture, all wrapped in a lightly stony, well-detailed and bitter lemon-inflected finish. This markedly dry but not really austere effort should repay up to a decade of keeping though it should also be approachable after 4 to 5 years of keeping. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to read. More attractive are the vibrant, dense and mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that possess notably better depth on the balanced, lengthy and appealingly dry finale. This is lovely and a wine that should permit early drinking if desired. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** A cool, pure and elegant nose combines its aromas of honeysuckle, citrus zest, spice and an admirably discreet dollop of oak. There is again fine volume to the rich, succulent and caressing medium weight flavors that possess a highly seductive texture before terminating a palate coating, balanced and lingering finale. This lovely and balanced effort could also use a bit more depth but that should reasonably occur if given time. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from the Puligny side). There is a very subtle whiff of exotic fruit to the markedly floral-suffused nose of mostly white orchard fruit, orange peel and jasmine tea. There is excellent intensity to the concentrated broad-shouldered flavors that display evident power that carries over to the compact, backward and beautifully long finale. This is clearly a Bâtard that is built-to-age and one that's going to need at least 5 to 7 years first. (91-94)/2031+

### **Maison Albert Bichot (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne “Secret de Famille”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
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See also the other Bichot properties of Domaine du Pavillon and the Domaine du Château Gris that are reviewed separately herein. Specifically with respect to the whites, the yields were only 9 to 11 hl/ha! (Albert Bichot USA, [www.albert-bichot.com](http://www.albert-bichot.com), USA; Stannary Wine, [www.stannarywine.com](http://www.stannarywine.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Soho Wine Supply Ltd, [www.sohowine.co.uk](http://www.sohowine.co.uk), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), Inverarity Morton, [www.inveraritymorton.com](http://www.inveraritymorton.com), C & O Wines, [www.cowines.com](http://www.cowines.com), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne “Secret de Famille”:** A mildly exotic and slightly fruity nose gives way to nicely voluminous yet racy middleweight flavors that deliver good length on the lightly citrus-inflected finale that is clean and dry if not especially complex. To enjoy young. 86/2024+

### **Domaine Bitouzet-Prieur (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Grandes Terres”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Levrons”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>

François Bitouzet, now completely installed in a beautiful state of the art *cuvée* in Meursault, said that 2021 was “technically an extremely complicated vintage to manage. I say this because not only was there the obvious catastrophe of the frost but following it were fully three different disease pressures that came in different phases. Oidium was first, then mildew and then botrytis, which we stopped but then it came back just before the harvest! Also, pruning after a frost when the branches are so fragile was fraught to say the least. We finally made it to the harvest, and I initially planned to begin picking on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, but it rained all day so we picked from the 21<sup>st</sup> on, compared to having started on August 20<sup>th</sup> in 2020! The fruit was surprisingly clean given the disease pressure so there wasn't much sorting necessary. During the vinification I was not enthusiastic at all about the reds but to my pleasant surprise, once the malos and the first racking were finished, they began to add body and weight. It also seemed evident from the beginning that the reds would be brilliantly transparent so to be absolutely certain not to mark the wines, I used no new wood at all, in fact I didn't even use any one-year-old wood. The other change is that I bottled early, which is not at all in the spirit which I usually work but the wines made it clear that there was nothing further to gain by waiting. Moreover, because the volumes were so small, I didn't trust storing them in small containers. On the white side, making them was technically less challenging but the volumes were even smaller than they were for the reds and I didn't even make several *cuvées*. To provide an idea, I usually make about 55 barrels of Meursault *villages* but in

2021, I made 14.” I would observe that I very much like the quality I found here in both colors and in particular, the Meursault “Perrières” is stunningly good. Lastly, because of the tiny quantities, several of the usual *cuvées* in white were not made as the Les Corbins, Clos du Cromin and the Santenots as all were blended into the straight Meursault *villages*. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Canada; Jebesen Beverage Co., [www.jebesen.com](http://www.jebesen.com), China/Hong Kong, Grand Millésime Wine, [www.grandmillesime.com.au](http://www.grandmillesime.com.au), Australia).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Grandes Terres”:** A ripe, fresh and exuberantly spicy nose is comprised by notes of apple, citrus confit and a hint of the exotic. There is outstanding intensity to the precise and stony middleweight flavors that terminate in an inviting and very refreshing finish. This is a **terrific aligoté** and well worth considering. 88/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from vines located in Meursault). Pretty aromas of just sliced pear and apple enjoy a floral top note. There is again excellent intensity to the delicious and precise middleweight flavors that are supported by bright acidity on the lingering, clean and agreeably dry finale. This is also very good for its level. 87/2024+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Santenots, Les Corbins and Clos du Cromin). A discreet application of wood is present on the fresh and slightly riper aromas of hazelnut, essence of pear, citrus zest and acacia blossom. Once again there is excellent energy to the beautifully delineated medium-bodied flavors that deliver excellent length if only average depth. However, more complexity may well develop if given a few years of keeping. 88/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Levrons”:** (from vines planted in the 1950s). A more floral-suffused nose reveals aromas of petrol, just sliced apple and a hint of spice. There is both slightly better volume and more refinement to the middleweight flavors that are at once rich and seductive but quite punch on the balanced, clean and attractively dry finale. This is a lovely Puligny *villages* and one that should amply repay mid-term keeping. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (Bitouzet has 2 parcels measuring .50 ha, one in Charmes Dessous and another in Charmes Dessus that are vinified, and raised, separately but then blended). Here too there is a background whiff of petrol adding breadth to the spicy aromas of green apple and citrus zest. There is more volume and almost painful intensity to the medium-bodied flavors that terminate in a chiseled, youthfully austere and bone-dry finale. I would observe that this will need at least some bottle aging as it’s very tightly coiled at present. 92/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from 30+ year old vines). Cool and restrained aromas reflect notes of mineral reduction, essence of pear and the classic floral elements of a fine Perrières. The super-sleek and tension-filled flavors brim with both minerality and sappy dry extract where the latter helps to buffer the firm acid spine shaping the linear, moderately austere and explosive finish. This is even more chiseled than the Charmes and a wine that is also going to need extended keeping. In short, this is a **superb Perrières** that is absolutely worth your interest. 94/2031+

### **Domaine Simon Bize (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
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Chisa Bize briefly noted that total volume for the 2021 vintage was off fully 80% due to the frost and a severe attack of oidium. As was the case with the reds where the Fourneaux, Marconnets and Talmettes were not made, several of the regular *cuvées* of white will not be made either. She did however confirm that there will be a Corton-Charlemagne and Savigny “Aux Vergelesses” will be made even if in very tiny quantities. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Martin Scott Wines, [www.martinscottwines.com](http://www.martinscottwines.com), NY/NJ/CT, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, AOC Imports, email [holly@aocimports.com](mailto:holly@aocimports.com), CA, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, Magnolia Spirits, [gatkins@atkinsmachinery.com](mailto:gatkins@atkinsmachinery.com), SC, PDX, [pdxwines@gmail.com](mailto:pdxwines@gmail.com), OR, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA/RI/NH, Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL and Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, all USA; Davy & Co., [www.davywine.co.uk](http://www.davywine.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), From Vineyards Direct, [www.fromvineyardsdirect.com](http://www.fromvineyardsdirect.com), Harrods Limited, [www.harrods.com/food-and-wine](http://www.harrods.com/food-and-wine), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), Ball Brothers, [www.merchant.ballsbrothers.co.uk](http://www.merchant.ballsbrothers.co.uk), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), and S. H. Jones Ltd., [www.shjoneswines.com](http://www.shjoneswines.com), all UK).

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune:** Aromas of apple, pear and citrus zest display a very subtle background hint of volatile acidity. There is excellent density to the delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean, very dry and citrusy finish. This is forward enough to enjoy young but should also repay a few years of keeping. (86-88)/2025+

### Domaine Blain-Gagnard (Chassagne-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	white	95
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet		white	89
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	"Boudriotte" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	"Les Caillerets" 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	"Clos St. Jean" 1er	white	91
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	"Morgeot" 1er	white	91
2021	Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet	Grand Cru	white	95
2021	Le Montrachet	Grand Cru	white	96
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet		white	91

The shy and modest Jean-Marc Blain offered a mixed view of the 2021 vintage, in fact much like he did for the 2020 vintage, by observing that "it gave us excellent quality but unfortunately, quantities were incredibly low due to the frost and intense disease pressure. We did better than many domaines in treating our vines though because they are *enherbé* (planted with cover grasses), which means that we can enter them with machinery as they don't slip. We also protected our grand crus from the frost so quantities there were not too bad as they were off 'only' 15 to 30%. However, everything else, especially the hillside vineyards, were badly damaged at between -50 to -70%; in fact the only normal yield we had was the Chassagne *rouge*. We picked between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and the fruit was really pretty clean with most wines coming in at around 12.5%. As such, we chaptalized a few wines .5% to arrive at 13% though the Criots came in naturally at 13.2%. We did a relatively normal vinification for the reds and we did a bit of lees stirring for the whites. Overall, given the difficulties of the growing season, I am really exceptionally pleased with the quality." Blain should indeed be happy with the quality as 2021 is arguably the best vintage from the domaine in several years and in particular, don't miss the Puligny *villages* as it's outstanding for its level. Blain noted that the whites were bottled in September 2022. Lastly, as I reported last year, more of the domaine will progressively pass to his son Marc-Antoine and to this end, 2021 will be the last vintage for the Clos St. Jean. (Craft + Estate/Winebow, [www.thewinebowgroup.com](http://www.thewinebowgroup.com), VA USA; Majestic Wine Warehouse, [www.majestic.co.uk](http://www.majestic.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk) and Haynes Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from a mix of ~30% young vine 1ers and *villages* fruit). There is a touch of phenolic character (think olive oil nuances) to the aromas of petrol, citrus zest and apple. The markedly rich yet vibrant medium weight flavors possess excellent density and a more refined texture than usual, all wrapped in a lingering finale that is supported by bright but not drying acidity. This is a lovely Chassagne *villages* that could be enjoyed young or held for a few years first. 89/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from La Rue au Vache). A more elegant and more floral-infused nose speaks of green apple, spice and the barest hint of oak influence. The gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors dance across the palate while delivering excellent depth and persistence on the balanced, chiseled and refreshing finale that is somewhat firmer. This is a knockout Puligny *villages* and **highly recommended**, moreover it should age gracefully over the mid-term. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos St. Jean":** (from Rebichets; 2021 will be the last vintage). A slightly riper nose combines notes of white peach, citrus confit and hints of both wood and petrol. The round and caressing middleweight flavors also possess a seductive texture thanks to the abundant sappy dry extract before concluding in clean, dry and balanced finale. This is certainly more powerful though not necessarily better or more interesting than the Puligny *villages*. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Boudriotte":** (from Fairendes). A cooler and more reserved nose features notes of elegant and admirably pure white flowers, green apple and a touch of rosemary oil. There is first-rate density to the powerful and muscular flavors that flash a touch of better lemon zest on the strikingly long, balanced and complex finish. This a **terrific example** of the appellation and absolutely worth your interest. 93/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot":** (this is now exclusively from Les Boirettes as the parcel of Champ Jendreau was transferred to Blain's son Marc-Antoine). Fresh, bright and pretty aromas offer up notes of citrus confit, petrol and just sliced pear. The round, generous and seductively textured middleweight flavors are not as concentrated or powerful though they do exhibit solid depth and persistence on the balanced finish that isn't as tightly wound. 91/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Caillerets":** (from Vigne Derrière). Enough wood to comment on sets off the borderline exotic aromas of orange peel, white peach, exotic tea and a hint of pineapple. The rich and very generous medium-bodied flavors once again brim with sappy dry extract where an evident bead of minerality adds a sense of lift to the very dry finish that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. This has the stuffing to age but is sufficiently pliant to be enjoyable young as well. 92/2028+



**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 3 separate parcels that aggregate only .2 ha). Here too there is just enough wood to merit mentioning as well as a hint of the exotic to be found on the aromas of pear confit, jasmine tea, orange peel and peach. There is superb density to the highly seductive, even plush, larger-bodied flavors that possess a suave mouthfeel while displaying stunningly good length on the powerful, firm and built-to-age finale. This is a strikingly good Criots that could be approached after only 5 to 7 years yet should repay up to 15 years of keeping. 95/2033+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** A markedly more floral-suffused and slightly cooler nose reflects notes of both white and yellow peach, citrus confit and a plenitude of spice elements. Here too the palate impression is seductive thanks to the superb concentration of the powerful and almost painfully intense broad-shouldered flavors that also display superb length on the balanced and equally tightly coiled finish. If you can find it, buy it. 95/2033+

**2021 Le Montrachet:** (Blain produces 1 to 2 barrels annually from the Chassagne side though that wasn't the case in 2021). Here too there is a prominent floral component to the much more reserved aromas of spice, citrus, green apple and exotic tea. The big-bodied flavors are rich to the point of opulence with a stunning generosity while maintaining perfect balance on the lemony, compact and overtly austere finish that just goes on and on. This is a classic Montrachet that is very much built-to-age and it is indisputably one of the wines of the vintage. The word brilliant comes to mind. 96/2036+

#### **Blouctet-Garnier-Bichot (Nuits St. Georges)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Chorey-lès-Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>

Grégoire Bichot of Domaine des Clos (see below), along with long-time partners Raphaël Blouctet and Florence Garnier, has founded a tiny *négociant* operation with the idea of producing small lots of high-quality whites and reds depending on the availability of excellent fruit. For more perspective on the 2020 vintage, please see Issue 85 or the Burghound database. (Clarion Wines, [www.clarionwines.co.uk](http://www.clarionwines.co.uk), UK; Lelane Wine Cellar, [www.lelane.com](http://www.lelane.com), Shanghai, China; Dom Vinho Company, [www.bom-vinho.com](http://www.bom-vinho.com), Macao; UCL Wine Ltd., [www.uwselections.com](http://www.uwselections.com), Hong Kong).

**2020 Chorey-lès-Beaune:** A vague whiff of the exotic lurks in the background of the nose of white peach, honeysuckle and orange peel. There is both good richness and vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors that deliver reasonably good length if only average depth. To enjoy upon release. 87/now+

**2020 Beaune:** (from Lulune, Longbois and Les Longes). A cooler nose reluctantly offers up notes of petrol, just sliced citrus and green apple. There is slightly better underlying tension to the more mineral-inflected flavors that also deliver reasonably good length but no better than average complexity. This too is sufficiently forward to enjoy upon release. 87/now+

#### **Domaine Thomas Boccon (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>→ Bourgogne Côte d'Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

The young Thomas Boccon is the son-in-law of François Mikulski (see herein) who has started a small *négociant* operation. His first vintage was 2017 and to date he makes only small lots from select terroirs. The wines are largely distributed in France so they won't be easy to find but are worth looking out for should you be traveling there.

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** Pretty and fresh white orchard fruit aromas display citrus and soft floral top notes. The vibrant, delicious and nicely textured middleweight flavors are firm enough on the clean, dry and balanced finale to merit a year or two of keeping. This offers fine quality for its level and is worth checking out. 87/2024+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Moulin Landin). While aromatically similar to the Bourgogne, there is more size, weight and richness to the succulent and round medium weight flavors that also culminate in a clean, dry and very dry finale that is notably firmer. A few years of patience should help more depth to develop. 88/2026+

### Domaine Henri Boillot (Volnay)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	95
2021	➔ Meursault "Clos Richemont" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	91
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Mouchère" 1er	white	94
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	white	94

Henri Boillot's son Guillaume described 2021 as a "tough vintage in several different aspects as we had frost damage and were constantly reacting to varying degrees of disease pressure, in particular mildew though the oidium was not so bad. We usually pick early but not in 2021 as we waited until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. While the condition of the fruit was actually quite good, there wasn't much of it as quantities were down 50% in pinot and fully 70% for the chardonnay. Because the quantities were so low I briefly considered the possibility of making a generic Volnay premier cru but in the end, I concluded that would be too bad to sacrifice the individuality of the wines in the interest of having a more comfortable quantity of wine to sell. Besides, given that our approach to vinifying the reds is based off of working with limited quantities, in the end it worked out well. One major change though was that I used zero new wood for the reds and a maximum of 30% for the whites and a number of them had none at all. I also did no lees stirring for the whites. As to the wines, I really like them and especially for their transparency and energy." As was the case in 2021, and as the comments and ratings confirm, I was impressed with the Boillot 2021s and in particular the Pucelles and Clos de la Mouchère are outstanding. Boillot further noted that the whites were bottled in December 2022 without fining or filtration. See also the Maison Henri Boillot wines directly below. Fans of the domaine will notice that several wines were not made as there is no Goutte d'Or, Puligny "Perrières" or "Combettes". (Chelsea Ventures, LLC, [www.chelseaventures.us](http://www.chelseaventures.us), IL, Milton Road Trading Corp, LLC, [www.miltonroadtrading.com](http://www.miltonroadtrading.com), CA, Cynthia Hurley, [www.cynthiahurley.com](http://www.cynthiahurley.com), MA and Massanois Imports, [www.massanois.com](http://www.massanois.com), NY, all USA; Enotria Winecellars Ltd., [www.enotria.co.uk](http://www.enotria.co.uk), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), and Georges Barbier of London, [www.georgesbarbier.co.uk](http://www.georgesbarbier.co.uk), all UK; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Meursault "Genevrières":** Cool, pure and wonderfully airy aromas include those of exotic tea, acacia blossom, citrus and discreet spice wisps. The almost painfully intense middleweight flavors exude a bracing minerality on the superbly long, balanced and explosive finish. This is excellent, indeed it's textbook Genevrières. 93/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Clos Richemont":** (a monopole measuring .62 ha that is actually part of Les Cras). A slightly riper though almost as elegant nose combines notes of petrol and citrus with those of acacia, mineral reduction and crushed fennel. There is more volume and richness to the less prominently stony flavors that possess a highly seductive mouthfeel, all wrapped in a superbly long finish. This isn't quite as refined as the Genevrières but it's even more complex. I would observe that while the two wines are qualitative equals, they offer two very different expressions. 93/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 1 ha of evenly mixed vines in Houlières, Charmes, La Rue aux Vaches, Rue Rousseau and Enseignères). Moderate reduction is enough to push the underlying fruit to the background. By contrast, there is excellent freshness and intensity to the solidly concentrated medium weight flavors that coat the palate with dry extract while delivering impressive length on the balanced, youthfully austere and citrus-tinged finale. This is **a really good Puligny villages** and even though it's more powerful than usual, it remains stylish and refined. One to buy plus it should age gracefully. 91/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles":** (from a .66 ha holding). Here too there is a touch of reduction though it's light enough such that notes of honeysuckle and lemon-lime can be discerned. The texture of the medium-bodied flavors is again wonderfully refined while keeping the same impressive punch while displaying excellent cut on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This is quite simply a gorgeous Pucelles and **highly recommended**. 94/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Mouchère":** (from 60+ year old vines and the vineyard is a whopping 4 ha monopole within Perrières). Cool, airy and very pretty aromas of the essence of pear, exotic tea, spice and acacia blossom are trimmed in an admirably discreet touch of oak. Much like the Pucelles, the texture of the slightly bigger and more mineral-driven flavors is wonderfully refined and even more powerful on the explosively long, graceful and bone-dry finale. This is also **highly recommended**. 94/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (one contiguous parcel measuring about .24 ha is spread evenly between Chassagne and Puligny; Boillot calls it his Bâtard du Milieu). A restrained and distinctly citrus and floral-suffused nose displays hints of exotic tea, anise, oak and just sliced apple. There is both excellent volume and excellent delineation on the succulent but almost painfully punchy big-bodied flavors that terminate in a precise, balanced and bone-dry finale. This is presently very tightly coiled and a wine that will need extended keeping and should amply reward 12 to 15 years of it. Excellent. 95/2033+

### Maison Henri Boillot (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	87
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	95
2021	➔ Meursault	white	89
2021	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	97
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" 1er	white	92

Henri Boillot continues to make stunning wines from his *négociant* operation and he has arguably become the finest pure *négoce* specializing in white burgundy today; yes there are other very fine *négociants* but the huge majority of them are really domaines hidden inside a "Maison" facade that buy in fruit or must to supplement their proprietary wines. Please see the comments for the 2021 vintage in Domaine Henri Boillot above. (Chelsea Ventures, LLC, [www.chelseaventures.us](http://www.chelseaventures.us), IL, Milton Road Trading Corp, LLC, [www.miltonroadtrading.com](http://www.miltonroadtrading.com), CA, Cynthia Hurley, [www.cynthiahurley.com](http://www.cynthiahurley.com), MA and Massanois Imports, [www.massanois.com](http://www.massanois.com), NY, all USA; Enotria Winecellars Ltd., [www.enotria.co.uk](http://www.enotria.co.uk), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), and Georges Barbier of London, [www.georgesbarbier.co.uk](http://www.georgesbarbier.co.uk), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (85% from Meursault and Puligny Bourgogne vines and the rest from declassified St. Romain and Auxey-Duresses in equal proportions). Fresh and bright aromas consist of petrol, lemon zest and green apple scents. The racy, detailed and attractively textured middleweight flavors possess very good mid-palate volume while delivering better than average depth and persistence on the bone-dry finale. This is lovely for its level and worth a look. 87/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (a blend of roughly equal proportions from Pelles Dessus, Casse Tête, Grands Charrons, En la Barre, En la Barre, Mal Poirier and En Luraule). This is actually quite aromatically similar to the Bourgogne save for displaying notably more floral elements. The caressing but decidedly punchy medium weight flavors also display fine delineation that carries over to the youthfully austere, lemony and sneaky long finale. This could use better depth but more should reasonably develop if given a chance and my rating assumes that it will. 89/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières":** There is just enough reduction present to blur the nuances of the fresh and cool aromas of citrus peel and various floral elements. There is good if not special concentration to the wonderfully sleek medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the balanced, dry and stylish finale that is firm enough to repay up to a decade of keeping. 92/2029+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from Puligny fruit). An extremely subtle application of wood can be found on the cool if decidedly reluctant nose of spiced green apple, beeswax and citrus zest aromas. The palate impression of the medium weight plus flavors is quite interesting in that there is excellent concentration and power yet they are not massively scaled while maintaining impeccable balance on the palate etching and stunningly long finish, indeed I could still taste this 3 hours later. This is one extremely classy Montrachet and one of the jewels of the 2021 vintage. 97/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Ladoix and Aloxe). This is also aromatically cool and decidedly restrained with its array of green apple, mineral reduction, citrus zest and a vaguely Chablis-like hint of oyster shell and iodine. The beautifully textured broad-shouldered flavors flash both focused power and an abundance of minerality on the tension-filled, bone-dry and balanced finale. This is also a strikingly pretty wine that is very much built to reward extended keeping. 95/2033+

### Domaine Bonneau du Martray (Pernand-Vergelesses)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne</b>	<b>Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne</b>	<b>Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>

As is usually the case, I met with general manager Thibault Jacquet and cellar master Emmanuel Hautus, who noted that the tasting format will be changing going forward as they prefer to present the wines in bottle. They did tell me that yields were extremely low in 2021, coming in at only 8 hl/ha for the Corton-Charlemagne and a scarcely better 12 hl/ha for the Corton. The 2020 Corton-Charlemagne, bottled in May 2022, was revisited in bottle and, I would point out, is fantastic. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France is the US Agent; Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, Chambers & Chambers Wine Merchants [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), CA, Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, [www.ndcweb.com](http://www.ndcweb.com), GA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), NV/AZ/NM, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA, all USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (35% from En Charlemagne and 65% from Le Charlemagne). Firm reduction renders the nose tough to evaluate though there is both fine freshness and verve to the impressively dense yet well detailed larger-bodied flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and strikingly long finish that is already displaying outstanding depth. This is potentially a knockout as it is seriously good though I underscore that at least moderate patience will be necessary. (93-96)/2033+

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** (35% from En Charlemagne and 65% from Le Charlemagne). An airy, cool and layered nose features notes of green apple, white flowers and discreet hints of mineral reduction and wood. The almost painfully intense, sleek and tension-filled flavors display beautiful cut and minerality while delivering superb length on the chiseled, linear and austere finale. This is an old school CC that is rich and ripe yet it cuts-like-a-knife. Impressive. 95/2032+

### Maison Bouchard Père & Fils (Beaune)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune "Clos St. Landry" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune du Château "1er" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault "Charmes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault "Les Clous"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault "Les Gouttes d'Or" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault "Perrières" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>

As has been widely reported in the wine press, Maisons & Domaines Henriot, which controls both Bouchard Père & Fils and William Fèvre in Chablis plus Beaux Frères in Oregon, has joined Artemis Domaines, the new incarnation of François Pinault's wine holdings. These include Domaines Clos de Tart and Eugénie in Bourgogne, along with Château Latour in Bordeaux and Château Grillet in the Rhone plus Araujo Estates in Napa. Artemis will reportedly control 75% of Henriot though I was unable to independently confirm that figure. How Artemis will restructure Bouchard, if at all, remains to be seen. There is though speculation among some observers that Bouchard's so-called lower-level vineyards will be sold off and it will focus on becoming more of a luxury brand, more in the image of Eugénie or Clos de Tart. By contrast, others think it will be split into several domaines, with the lower-level vineyards continuing to be made and marketed by Bouchard while another, yet to be determined, entity will take the most prestigious vineyards and market them separately. Both scenarios are at least plausible as Bouchard's holdings are among the greatest in all of Burgundy. We will see going forward but at a minimum, Winemaker Frédéric Weber noted that they bought in very little fruit and/or must in 2021 and 2022, and that going forward, they would concentrate almost exclusively on producing wines from domaine-owned vineyards. Indeed he said that there would be zero *négociant* activity as of 2023. He was careful to say that no permanent decisions had yet been made and that the focus on domaine vineyards was simply a 'natural' first step. This is an important story that will bear updating

Weber is always a wealth of detail regarding the intricacies of the growing season and regarding the 2021 vintage, he explained that “the preceding winter was relatively mild and wet, though not enough to replace the hydric deficit from the incredibly dry 2020 season. February was notably warmer than usual and the vines began to stir as it were, which of course presaged that if there was a frost, the damage could be genuinely terrible. The last week of March saw almost early summer temperatures and not surprisingly, the chardonnay vines, and the most precocious pinot vines, were already well-advanced when three nights of frost hit on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The worst though was the snow that fell on the 7<sup>th</sup>, which of course melted, soaking the buds, and then the coldest of the three nights occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup>, which was about the worst sequence of events that could happen. May was humid but relatively cold, which didn’t help matters as the vines were largely in shock from the frost. The flowering didn’t pass especially well either, which engendered some shatter. As if all of this wasn’t already more than enough, the season was punctuated by a succession of severe disease attacks, and in particular oidium. The vines were enfeebled from the frost and if you failed, even by as little as two days, to adequately protect them, you could easily lose whatever fruit remained. It was genuinely awful, not to mention nerve-wracking. The break the vines took in May allowed them to recover somewhat and June finally saw vigorous growth and when I say vigorous, it’s not an exaggeration as some vines grew as much as 6 to 8 cm each day! I have never seen that before. As such we pulled a lot of leaves in order to help with aeration though at the same time, it was necessary to do so judiciously as we needed them to produce energy to ripen the fruit. Then there was an attack of grey rot (botrytis) in August, which further complicated picking decisions. Ultimately, we chose to begin picking the most advanced plots of pinot on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September but held off on the whites until the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Yields were frankly miserable as they averaged only 10 hl/ha for the chardonnay and 19 hl/ha for the pinot. It was quite variable though because, for example, the Chevalier was hit so badly that we produced the equivalent of only 3.6 hl/ha! As such, there will be no La Cabotte at all. The reverse was also true as the later blooming vineyards had yields that were almost normal because they weren’t really affected by the frost. Even so, overall the 2021 crop is the lowest for Bouchard since 1930! If there was any good news in all of this, it was that potential alcohols were quite good as almost everything came in between 12.9 and 13.5% with very fine acidities. We did our best to eliminate as much of the second-generation fruit as we could because it wasn’t as ripe but even extremely experienced pickers can’t tell the difference. For the pinot, I tried to finish the vinifications as quickly as possible, which is to say on average between 12 and 15 days, as I wanted to avoid at all costs extracting any underripe tannins. We did no punching down early and what little we did do was done towards the end of the cuvaizon. I used around 30% whole clusters for the Côte de Beaune and around 50% for the Côte de Nuits, the idea being to soften the acidities (the stems have relatively considerable amounts of potassium, a base, which neutralizes some of the acidity). For the whites, despite the already tiny quantities, I eliminated the first part of the crush and then did an exceptionally long and slow pressing. This was followed by a 24-hour lees settling to make sure that I was working only with the cleanest lees. One of the most interesting things about the wines, both reds and whites, is how much they have improved during the *élevage* and in particular the whites; in fact they are still improving, and I honestly don’t know when I will bottle them though my present guess is this coming June. By contrast, the reds seem to be close to ready and I will likely bottle them in April and May. In terms of what other vintages might reasonably compare, the reds remind me somewhat of the 2000s while the whites are more like 2014.” While there are good whites from Bouchard up and down their portfolio, I was especially impressed by the collection of wines from Meursault, especially the Charmes and the Perrières. Lastly, there will be no Chevalier-Montrachet La Cabotte, which will be the first time since it was originally produced in 1997. (Maisons & Domaines Henriot America, [www.mdhamerica.com](http://www.mdhamerica.com), NY, USA; John E. Fells and Sons, [www.fells.co.uk](http://www.fells.co.uk), UK; Kerry Wines, [www.kerrywines.com](http://www.kerrywines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Beaune:** (from Prévoles). Fresh aromas of lemon zest, apple and petrol are trimmed in a discreet application of wood. There is good cut and punch to the citrus-inflected middleweight flavors that conclude in a linear and nicely persistent finish that could use better depth. This is delicious and if you’re impatient, should drink reasonably well young. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Beaune du Château “1er”:** (a blend of five 1ers totaling over 10 ha that include Tuvilains, Aigrots, Sur les Grèves Les Cras and Sizies). Slightly more prominent wood sets off slightly riper aromas of white orchard fruit, floral wisps and a similar hint of lemon zest. There is even better volume to the less refined medium weight flavors that also terminate in a clean, dry and youthfully austere finale. This appealing effort should also drink well young if that’s your preference. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Beaune “Clos St. Landry”:** (a 1.98 ha monopole that yielded only 5 hl/ha in 2021!). Here too moderate wood frames riper and vaguely exotic aromas that include those of white peach, citrus confit and a hint of pineapple. There is impressively density to the sappy and opulent vibrant medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract, all wrapped in a clean and dry sneaky long finish where a hint of quinine eventually emerges. This isn’t exactly creamy, but it would be fair to say that the finish isn’t chiseled. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Meursault “Les Clouds”:** (from a massive 8.6 ha parcel). Discreet though still easily perceptible wood is present on the cooler aromas of citrus, acacia and mineral reduction. The rich, delicious and concentrated middleweight flavors exude evident minerality on the detailed and beautifully persistent finale that is shaped by bright but not drying acidity. This youthfully austere and well-made effort will need at least a few years of keeping to unwind. (89-91)/2027+



**2021 Meursault “Les Gouttes d’Or”:** A cool, airy and ripe nose features notes of acacia, just sliced pear and subtle spice nuances. There is excellent volume to the rich and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that display impressive power on the citrusy, bone-dry and focused finale. This is a classic Goutte d’Or and one that should age accordingly. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** (from an incredible 2.7 ha holding which makes Bouchard the largest owner). Equally cool and more elegant aromas are comprised by notes of exotic jasmine tea, a range of floral elements and a whiff of mineral reduction. The almost painfully intense and stonier middleweight flavors aren’t as powerful, but they are clearly finer while delivering excellent length on the linear, balanced and moderately austere finale. This beauty will need at least a few years of keeping to develop more overall depth. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from Charmes Dessous). Background oak nuances can be found on the bright aromas of green apple, petrol and a range of citrus wisps. The medium weight plus flavors possess seriously good concentration while exhibiting impressive power on the linear, austere and borderline strict finish that is sneaky long. This is old school Meursault that will absolutely need extended keeping; indeed it’s a ‘buy and forget you own it’ wine. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from 3 separate parcels). This is aromatically similar to the Charmes though with a broader array of floral elements. There is almost painful intensity to the laser-like middleweight flavors that terminate in a chiseled, bone-dry and moderately austere finish that is like rolling small stones around the mouth. This is also very much built-to-age and as excellent as it is, it’s not likely to make for especially interesting drinking young as it’s very compact. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a huge 3.65 ha plot in Le Corton). There are vague Chablis-like elements on the nose of green apple, petrol, just sliced citrus, iodine and quinine. The rich, dense and exceptionally powerful big-bodied flavors manage to retain a certain refinement while delivering superb length on the balanced, bone-dry and stony finish. This moderately austere effort is also seriously good and has the structure to repay 12 to 15 years of keeping. In a word, excellent. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a 2.54 ha parcel including La Cabotte; the yield in 2021 was only 3.6 hl/ha and this includes the fruit from La Cabotte!). An exuberantly floral-suffused nose is both elegant and airy with its array of cool and restrained apple, pear, spice and mandarin orange scents. The broad-shouldered flavors are dense to the point of opulence while also retaining the hallmark refinement while delivering first-rate length on the succulent, sappy, balanced and chalky finish. This is quite rich and sufficiently forward that it may actually be approachable young. With that said, it could use more depth so at least some cellaring should prove beneficial. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from a .89 ha parcel on the Puligny side; from yields of ~20 hl/ha in 2021). Reluctant if broad-ranging aromas include those of petrol, floral, spice, white orchard fruit, especially white peach, exotic tea and a suggestion of oak. The dense and powerful yet caressing large-scaled flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract while displaying stunningly good length on the balanced, youthfully austere and compact finale. This is definitely built-to-age but the mid-palate density is so good that the 2021 Montrachet should be approachable after only 7 to 8 years of keeping. (93-96)/2033+

#### **Domaine Jean-Baptiste Boudier (Pernand-Vergelesses)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>

For those readers who are not familiar with the young and extremely talented Jean-Baptiste Boudier, please see Issue 90 for an introduction to both him and his domaine. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, USA; Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), both UK; Corney & Barrow Hong Kong, <https://corneyandbarrow.com.hk>, Hong Kong).

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (from a .95 ha holding in Les Pins, Es Larret et Vignes Blanches and Le Devant des Clous). Cool, pure and airy aromas of petrol, just sliced lemon and green apple give way to racy, delicious and overtly stony middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, agreeably dry and lingering finish that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. This lovely effort is worth considering and one that could be aged for a few years or enjoyed young. 89/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille”:** (from a small .12 ha holding in La Morand). This is aromatically quite similar to the straight Pernand *villages* though with the addition of a floral component. There is by contrast more volume on the plump but punchy medium-bodied flavors that exude a refreshing salinity on the clean and dry but not really austere finale. This could use more depth but the stuffing appears to be present for that to occur if given a chance. 90/2026+

### Domaine René Bouvier (Gevrey-Chambertin)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes	white	(86-88)
2021	Marsannay "Clos du Roy"	white	(88-91)
2021	Marsannay "Le Clos"	white	(87-89)
2021	Marsannay "Les Longeroies"	white	(87-90)

Bernard Bouvier took over his father's 10 ha domaine in 1992 and it has now been expanded to 30 ha as of 2021. Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database for more information on the 2021 vintage. (Paul Young Wines, CA and Elite Wines Imports, [www.elitewines.net](http://www.elitewines.net), VA, both USA; Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com) and Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), both UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes:** (vinified without add sulfur). An exceptionally spicy nose features mostly aromas of green apple and lemon-lime. The delicious, intense and agreeably textured middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the moderately dry and balanced finale. This will need to develop more depth to merit the upper end of my projected range. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay "Le Clos":** (a 3-ha monopole). Cool yet nicely ripe aromas of lemon rind, crushed fennel and apple lead to impressively dense and vibrant medium weight flavors that conclude in a bone-dry and lemony finale. This refreshing effort should drink well after only 1 to 2 years of keeping. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay "Les Longeroies":** A subtle yet perceptible application of wood is present on the ripe and layered nose of pear, apple and a whiff of the exotic. There is fine mid-palate density to the delicious and caressing flavors that display good if not special depth and length on the balanced finish where the wood reappears. This is refreshing if a bit woody though a few years of cellaring should help more completely integrate the oak. (87-90)/2025+

**2021 Marsannay "Clos du Roy":** More subtle though still easily perceptible wood influence frames ripe white orchard fruit, orange peel and acacia blossom. The sleeker if less pliant medium-bodied flavors exude a subtle minerality on the more precise, clean and nicely dry finale. This delicious effort is more complete. (88-91)/2026+

### Domaine Michel Bouzereau (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Le Clos du Moulin"	white	87
2021	➔ Meursault "Charmes Dessus" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Grands Charrons"	white	90
2021	➔ Meursault "Limozin"	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Perrières" 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Tesson"	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Caillerets" 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Champ Gains" 1er	white	(90-93)

Jean-Baptiste Bouzereau professed himself to be "extremely happy with the quality of our 2021 whites but the quantities are another story. We might actually have come out of the April frost without too much damage had it not snowed on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup>, which then melted and then when temperatures dropped again, everything was basically burnt to a crisp. The ensuing season wasn't the easiest to manage either so when we began picking on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September through to the 25<sup>th</sup>, we brought in the smallest crop ever. This is to say that yields varied between only 8 and 15 hl/ha! The regional wines did better than the 1ers but basically we were off 70%. While Puligny definitely was affected as well, Meursault was even worse hit. The good news for us, in a way of looking at things anyway, is that the frost damage was so complete that we really didn't have a mix of first- and second-generation fruit so in that sense, the quality of the fruit was relatively homogenous. On the plus side, the quality is extraordinary so while we didn't make very much, what we did make is excellent." I fully agree with Bouzereau's take on his '21 whites as they are indeed first-rate. Those wines reviewed from bottle below were put there in January 2023. I would add that along with Domaines Ballot-Millot and Henri Germain, Michel Bouzereau may be the best kept secret in Meursault. (Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY, USA; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvvines.com](http://www.fmvvines.com),

Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com) and Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), all UK; Watson and Kerry Wines, both Hong Kong; The Fine Wine Experience, [www.finewineexperience.com](http://www.finewineexperience.com), Hong Kong/Beijing, China).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** (the Bouzereau holdings have grown to fully 4 ha and the vines are located in both Meursault and Puligny). Cool and restrained if pretty aromas include those of petrol, lemon zest and a touch of crushed fennel character. The succulent, delicious and appealingly textured middleweight flavors possess a refreshing and agreeably dry finale that is more solidly persistent. This offers better than average quality for the appellation and is worth a look. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Le Clos du Moulin":** This is also aromatically cool and restrained with its aromas of green apple, lemon-lime and more elegant floral wisps. The vibrant medium weight flavors are not quite as concentrated though they are at once finer and more precise on the tension filled, clean and dry finale. This slightly firmer effort is quite good as well and also worth considering. 87/2025+

**2021 Meursault "Les Grands Charrons":** A beautifully layered nose combines notes of mineral reduction, quinine, essence of pear, quinine and a whiff of just sliced citrus. The lilting and beautifully refined flavors exude a subtle minerality on the very dry, well-detailed and lingering finish where a touch of youthful austerity slowly emerges. This is very good for its level. 90/2028+

**2021 Meursault "Limozin":** A perfumed and ultra-pure nose freely offers up its aromas of crushed pear, apple and a hint of lemon-lime character. Despite the young vines the palate impression of the medium weight flavors is lovely as it is at once caressing and refined, all wrapped in a balanced, lingering and highly persistent finish Excellent. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault "Les Tessons":** This is exceptionally cool and reserved with its grudging nose of green apple, citrus zest, mineral reduction and acacia blossom scents. Here too the mouthfeel of the chiseled middleweight flavors is lilting and highly energetic while displaying excellent minerality on the borderline bone-dry finale that delivers 1er length. This is first-rate for its level and **highly recommended**. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Champ Gains":** (from a .40 ha parcel that abuts Truffière). This is aromatically similar to the Les Tessons but with slightly more spice and floral influences. Here too the medium-bodied flavors possess a gorgeous texture with excellent delineation that carries over to the clean, very dry and youthfully austere finale where a touch of bitter lemon character emerges. This could use more depth but the potential is present for that to occur. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Charmes Dessus":** (from a .52 ha parcel). An elegant, even perfumed, nose reflects pure and airy notes of just sliced green apple, acacia, orange peel and the barest suggestion of wood. There is once again excellent intensity, detail and minerality to the utterly delicious flavors that are shaped by lemon-tinged acidity on the chiseled and bone-dry finale. Lovely, understated and age worthy. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Genevrières":** (also from a .52 ha parcel). Hints of exotic tea, particularly jasmine, are complemented by notes of citrus, spice and a mix of white orchard fruit. The gorgeously textured middleweight flavors possess cuts-like-a-knife delineation along with excellent minerality on the linear, bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. The underlying tension is palpable and this strikingly pretty effort should age gracefully over the next 10 to 12 years. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault "Perrières":** (from a parcel measuring .47 ha). Highly restrained aromas include those of green apple, mineral reduction and a plethora of floral elements along with plenty of citrus. The racy, chiseled and overtly stony medium weight flavors possess almost painful intensity while deliver superb length on the equally dry but not really austere finale. This is both classy and sophisticated and it too should age for a decade plus. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Caillerets":** (from a small .14 ha parcel). A more floral if less mineral-reduction-inflected nose more freely reveals its aromas of pear, apple, spice and lemon zest. There is again a positively gorgeous mouthfeel to the bigger-bodied and more powerful yet equally refined flavors that culminate in a brilliantly long, balanced and classy finale. This is quite simply terrific and **highly recommended**. (92-95)/2033+

### Domaine Boyer-Martenot (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Charmes" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	Meursault – Cuvée Fernand Boyer	white	(88-91)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Genevrières" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault "Narvaux"	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "En l'Ormeau"	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Perrières" 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Tillets"	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Caillerets" 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Reuchaux"	white	(89-92)

The always laconic Vincent Boyer offered his usual concise summary, noting that the 2021 "growing season was basically the antithesis of what we saw in 2018, 2019 and 2020 as it was cool and wet rather than hot and dry. Throw in a devastating frost and it's a recipe for in theory making awful wines. Yet, they're really quite good even if there's not much of them. While it was variable, on average we were off fully 70% though our parcels of Narvaux and Perrières were more like -90%. Interestingly though, we brought in relatively clean fruit despite the disease pressure with surprisingly good potential alcohols. I had no trouble with the vinifications and the malos were quite beneficial as there was a lot of malic acid. This obviously had a huge effect on the wines and not surprisingly, they have changed enormously during the *élevage*. Stylistically, I like them quite a bit as they're extremely fresh and display the underlying terroirs beautifully." As I noted last year but it's worth repeating, Boyer is progressively implementing various changes to his approaches to vinification and *élevage*. These include reducing the amount of new wood still further, adding no SO<sub>2</sub> until the malos have finished, doing no lees stirring and extending the total period of *élevage* to 24 months. For this latter modification, Boyer intends to split the 24 months into two periods where the wines are left in 5 to 8-year-old wood for 12 months and then another 12 months in large egg shaped *foudres*. In two other changes, Boyer said that the domaine is in the process of converting to organic viticulture and it was certified as such for the 2021 harvest. Secondly, all wines will now be bottled with wax capsules as another form of protection against oxygen ingress. I would add that while the upper-level wines are impressive, don't ignore the very fine quality among the *villages* and regional-level wines. (North Berkeley Imports, [www.northberkeleyimports.com](http://www.northberkeleyimports.com), CA, Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, Vintner Select, [www.vintnerselect.com](http://www.vintnerselect.com), OH, all USA; Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com), Decorum Vintners, [www.decvin.com](http://www.decvin.com), UK; Racines, [www.racines-japan.com](http://www.racines-japan.com), Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Exceptionally fresh aromas include those of lemon rind, green apple and spice. The racy and very well-detailed middleweight flavors possess very fine persistence on the clean and agreeably dry finish that already offers above average depth. Good stuff. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** A more floral if less spicy combination is comprised mostly by white orchard fruit and orange peel scents. There is again excellent punch and delineation to the delicious medium weight flavors that conclude in a mildly rustic and sneaky long finish. A few years of aging should be beneficial as more depth should develop. Lovely. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault – Cuvée Fernand Boyer:** (from Les Pellans, Grands Charrons, Les Pelles, Moulin Landin and Pré de Manche). A super-fresh nose freely offers up its array of citrus, floral, apple and crushed fennel scents. There is terrific intensity to the cuts-like-a-knife medium-bodied flavors that display solid length on the balanced and agreeably dry finale. This pretty effort will need to add depth to merit the upper end of my projected range. (88-91)/2028+

**2021 Meursault "En l'Ormeau":** (from a .60 ha parcel of vines planted in 1924). A classic Meursault nose of hazelnut, white orchard fruit and acacia blossom leads to slightly bigger and richer middleweight flavors that possess a more sophisticated texture while delivering fine length on the compact, youthfully austere and balanced finale. At least some patience should be markedly beneficial and overall, this is a high-quality Meursault *villages*. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Les Tillets":** Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to fairly assess. More interesting are the notably finer though not denser medium weight flavors that dance across the palate while exuding evident minerality on the balanced, very dry and lingering finish. This is textbook Tillets, which is to say a wine of finesse and elegance. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Narvaux”:** A cool, pure and airy nose features restrained aromas of freshly cut lemon, lime, green apple and pretty floral wisps. There is outstanding density to the rich, sappy and powerful medium-bodied flavors that deliver excellent length on the clean, dry and stony finale. This is an **impressive Meursault villages** and worth your interest plus it should repay up to a decade of keeping. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Reuchaux”:** A more floral-suffused nose easily reveals its aromas of white orchard fruit, citrus zest and exotic tea nuances. The rich and generously proportioned medium weight flavors pack excellent punch on the balanced, sappy and sneaky long finale. This is also very good for its level and worth considering. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Charmes”:** (from 3 different parcels located in both the upper and lower sections). Impenetrable reduction completely overshadows the fruit. Otherwise, there is solid density to the succulent and round middleweight flavors that also flash good power on the lingering, tightly wound and attractively dry finale. This could use better depth but the underlying material appears up to the task of developing more if given a chance. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Les Genevrières”:** (only 1 barrel made in 2021 versus the usual 5). A whiff of mineral reduction can be found on the cool, elegant and airy aromas of zest, acacia and exotic tea. The gorgeously textured medium weight flavors exude evident minerality on the detailed and tension-filled finale that is sufficiently tightly wound to promise a decade or more of aging potential. In a word, excellent. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Les Perrières”:** (2 barrels made in 2021 versus 18 or so typically). Here too the nose is resolutely reduced and unreadable. On the palate however there is both first-rate freshness and verve to the medium-bodied flavors that seem to be built on a base of almost pungent minerality while exhibiting laser-like focus on the backward, tightly coiled, firmly austere and built-to-age finish. This beauty is extremely promising, but patience absolutely required. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Caillerets”:** A somewhat curious nose is comprised by notes of menthol and reduction, something that isn't common. By contrast the middleweight flavors possess a highly sophisticated texture with excellent underlying energy while offering superb length on the equally stony, coiled and built-to-age finale. This stunning effort will also require moderately extended patience and ultimately should repay 12 to 15 years of keeping. (92-94)/2033+

#### **Domaine Buisson-Charles (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté Hors Classe</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or Hautes Coutures</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chablis A Gauche de Serein 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault In Memoriam 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Tessons”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault – La Vigne de 1945</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pouilly-Fuissé “La Maréchaude” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pouilly-Fuissé – Terroir de Vergisson</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>

Louis Essa, the son of Patrick and Catherine, is now in charge of the day-to-day activities of this 6.3 ha domaine even though his parents remain very much involved. The younger Essa noted that “the season was difficult and of course there was the frost where we got hammered pretty hard, especially in our premier crus. The disease pressure though was equally serious and while we did not abandon our organic philosophy in the vineyards, we may have found the upper limits of what is possible with organic viticulture. We picked a few of the ripest vineyards beginning on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, though we harvested in earnest from the 26<sup>th</sup> and continued through to the 5<sup>th</sup> of October. Yields were in general off 50%, though the hillside vineyards, and thus mostly the premier crus, were off 60%. Potential alcohols came in mostly between 12 and 13%. I used between 20 and 40% whole clusters for the vinifications and chose to do a soft but long cuvaion of around three weeks. As to the wines, they have changed markedly during the *élevage* and offer an incredible change in style from that of the last three vintages.” Essa noted that the whites will be bottled without fining or filtration. As the ratings and commentaries confirm, 2020 is a splendid vintage for the domaine and a number of the wines are well worth a special search to find, and in particular, the absolutely brilliant Tessons. (Vintner Select, [www.vintnersselect.com](http://www.vintnersselect.com), OH, Milton Road Trading Corp, LLC, [www.miltonroadtrading.com](http://www.miltonroadtrading.com), CA, Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR, Martine's Wines, [www.martineswines.com](http://www.martineswines.com), CA, Import Wines, WI, Old World Importing, Inc., [www.oldworldimporting.com](http://www.oldworldimporting.com), CO, all USA; Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com), Roberson Wine, [www.roberson.co.uk](http://www.roberson.co.uk), and Anthony Sarjeant, all UK).



**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Hors Classe:** A ripe and very spicy nose combines notes of white peach and citrus confit with those of green apple and anise hints. There is both excellent density and energy to the utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a bitter zest-inflected finale. This is excellent for its level. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Hautes Coutures:** (from Meursault-based vines). A cooler and more floral-suffused nose speaks mostly of white orchard fruit and more subtle lemon-lime influence. The delicious middleweight flavors also possess impressive mid-palate density while offering well above average depth and persistence. This is also excellent. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Chablis A Gauche de Serein:** (from Les Lys, Montmains proper and Vau de Vey). There is plenty of typical Chablis elements on the nose of quinine, iodine, oyster shell and cool green apple wisps. The racy, delineation and nicely voluminous flavors culminate in a saliva-inducing and very dry but not really austere finale that could use better depth. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Pouilly-Fuissé – Terroir de Vergisson:** A mild touch of reduction is just enough to blur the nuances of the mostly floral and spice aromas. More interesting are the impressively concentrated and powerful medium-bodied flavors that don't possess much refinement, indeed they're borderline rustic, but they do display excellent depth and persistence. (90-93)/2027+

**2021 Pouilly-Fuissé “La Maréchaude”:** A restrained, cool and smoky nose registers ripe yet fresh aromas of citrus, green apple and a hint of quinine. The rich and generously proportioned medium weight flavors possess both excellent punch and evident power that builds on the beautifully long if not quite as complex finale. (90-93)/2027+

**2021 Meursault Vieilles Vignes:** Pungent aromas of wood toast and reduction mask the underlying fruit. There is outstanding density to the delicious, caressing and exceptionally punchy larger-scaled flavors that exude evident minerality on the clean, dry and beautifully long finale. This is unusually good for its level. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Meursault – La Vigne de 1945:** (from Les Pellans). This is also pungently reduced with the only perceptible aromas that of wood toast. The medium weight flavors are not quite as dense though they are noticeably finer with stunningly good intensity along with excellent delineation on the even more complex and lingering finale. **This is terrific.** (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Tessons”:** (from vines planted in 1964 that are in the Clos de Tessons). Once again reduction and oak toast hold sway over the fruit. There is a more sophisticated mouthfeel to the racy, precise and even stonier medium-bodied flavors that possess superb depth and persistence on the clean, bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. This built-to-age stunner of a Tessons could well be the **best villages-level wine of the vintage.** (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault In Memoriam:** (from 4 different 1ers). There is a whiff of the phenolic to the aromas of hazelnut, acacia blossom, citrus confit and white peach, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to merit mentioning. The medium weight plus flavors possess outstanding mid-palate density while displaying excellent power on the sappy, balanced and strikingly long finale. This could use better depth but more should almost certainly develop. This is terrific. (92-95)/2033+

#### **Domaine Jean-Luc & Eric Burquet (Gevrey-Chambertin)**

**2021 Meursault**

**white**

**88**

For more on Jean-Luc Burquet's views of the 2021 vintage, please see the Burghound database or Issue 89. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), IL, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, The Harvest Wine Company, LLC, [nate@harvestwineco.com](mailto:nate@harvestwineco.com), CO, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA, all USA; Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), all UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Meursault:** (from Sous La Velle). There is ample Meursault typicity to the nose of hazelnut, acacia and cool white orchard fruit scents. There is both good richness and volume to the quite full-bodied and concentrated medium weight flavors that offer solid depth and persistence on the bright and delicious if mildly rustic finale. Note that this could easily be enjoyed young but 2 to 3 years of keeping should be beneficial as well. 88/2025+

### Domaine François Carillon (Puligny-Montrachet)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(87-89)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	white	(88-91)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Macherelles" 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos du Vieux Château"	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Enseignères"	white	(88-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Champ Gain" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Perrières" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	St. Aubin "Les Murgers des Dents de Chien" 1er	white	(90-92)

François Carillon, brother of Jacques (see immediately below), now farms 17 ha (most of which is planted to chardonnay) as new vines were recently added by leasing 2 ha from Domaine Maroslavac-Léger. As such, Carillon has mostly ended his *négociant* activities. As to the 2021 vintage, Carillon told me that "the April frost absolutely killed us and the basically lousy growing season thereafter didn't make matters any easier. While it varied enormously, across all of my appellations, yields were down 80%, in fact the only wine with normal yields was the aligoté. We picked from the 20<sup>th</sup> of September and at least the fruit was exceptionally clean so we could harvest quickly. Despite all of the difficulties, quality is surprisingly good, in fact it reminds me of the 1992 vintage, which for those who have had the pleasure of trying them understand that this is a high compliment." Carillon noted that there will not be a Bourgogne "Le Vieux Clos" in 2021. As my comments confirm, I was extremely impressed by the quality Carillon achieved, indeed these are some of the best wines he has made. (Vineyard Brands, Inc., [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A very aligoté nose displays notes of green apple, spice and citrus wisps. There is both fine intensity and surprisingly good density to the plump and round flavors given that this had normal yields, all wrapped in a punchy, clean and dry finale. This is a quality effort for the genre and worth a look. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Firm reduction overshadows everything but a suggestion of petrol. Otherwise, there is excellent concentration to the relatively powerful medium weight flavors that possess unusually good size, weight and depth on the lingering finish. This isn't refined but offers **impressive overall quality** for its level. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from Les Voillenots Dessus). Aromas of petrol, white orchard fruit and resin precede the equally dense medium-bodied flavors that possess a seductive texture that carries over to the lemony, clean and attractively dry finale. This is also quite good and should amply repay a few years of keeping. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Macherelles":** (from a .72 ha parcel). A slightly more elegant and certainly spicier nose combines notes of pear, apple and rosemary oil. The sleeker and more attractively textured middleweight flavors possess even better punch on the lingering, balanced and bitter lemon-inflected finale. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 8 different *lieux-dits* that total a whopping 5 ha, though because the parcel of Levrons has been pulled up, there will be 7 different vineyards for the next few years). This is more aromatically elegant still with its nose of acacia blossom, just sliced apple, mandarin orange peel and a whiff of anise. There is superb density for a *villages*-level Puligny with a caressing if not necessarily sophisticated mouthfeel while delivering impressive depth and persistence. This is quite satisfying and offers **excellent value**. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos du Vieux Château":** (from a .78 ha parcel that is a monopole of the domaine). This is aromatically similar to the straight Puligny *villages* but noticeably spicier. The plump, round and suave medium weight flavors possess fine volume and solid finishing punch on the sneaky long finish that is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity. This well-made effort isn't quite as complex but that may well change with a few years of cellaring. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Enseignères":** This is the first wine to display any appreciable amount of wood that frames the slightly riper aromas of white peach, pear, petrol and a suggestion of the exotic. The dense but agreeably vibrant medium-bodied flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract while offering fine length on the almost aggressively citrus-inflected finale that could also use better depth. (88-91)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Murgers des Dents de Chien”:** (from a .75 ha parcel). Here too there is noticeable petrol character to the floral, mineral reduction and green apple-suffused aromas. The middleweight flavors don't possess the same density but they are markedly finer and much more mineral-driven on the linear, youthfully austere and crisp finale. This could also use more depth but the underlying material and balance should allow that to occur if given a chance. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Champ Gain”:** (from 4 parcels near Dents de Chien that measure ~2 ha). A cool, pure, airy and appealingly layered nose displays aromas of mostly acacia blossom and lemon-lime, along with a background hint of crushed fennel. There is excellent energy and a gorgeous texture to the medium weight flavors that flash plenty of minerality on the balanced, nicely dry and sneaky long finish that would also benefit from developing better depth. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a .78 ha parcel of vines planted in 1995). This is also aromatically quite cool with its combination of green apple, floral, lemon-lime and an interesting hint of orange peel. The elegant, sophisticated and ultra-fine medium weight flavors exude a subtle minerality that adds a sense of lift to the dry, focused and lightly austere finale. This strikingly pretty effort is textbook Combettes. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Perrières”:** (from a .50 ha parcel). A slightly riper and more floral-suffused nose also displays notes of green apple and acacia blossom. The dense, powerful and tautly muscular yet reasonably refined flavors are even more mineral-driven while delivering excellent length on the balanced, clean and attractively dry finale. Lovely. (91-93)/2029+

### **Domaine Jacques Carillon (Puligny-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Cuvée 500 Ans Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Champs Canet” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

Jacques Carillon (brother of François – see above) runs this 5.2 ha domaine. He said that his 2021s were so primary and had only recently finished their malos that he preferred to present them later in the year, but I did revisit his superb 2020s. With respect to the 2021 vintage, he noted that the “yields were hugely varied. The Puligny *villages* was off about 30%, the BBM was off ‘only’ 50% because we protected the vines with warming candles while the 1ers were off fully 80%. While it's early, the style reminds me of a denser 2007.” Because I am revisiting the 2020s, I am including what Carillon had to say from last year: “The 2020 vintage is one where a hot and dry growing season was helped immensely by a relatively wet winter so that during the summer, the vines didn't really suffer all that much from hydric stress. I chose to begin picking on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August and the fruit was essentially spotless with good sugar and acid levels. Yields were good at between 40 and 50 hl/ha with potential alcohols that were solid without being high at 13 to 13.5%. As to the style of 2020, to me it's a classic vintage that is like a mix of 2017 and 2018.” I have pointed this out before but it's worth emphasizing again that Carillon has raised his free SO<sub>2</sub> level to ~50 milligrams in the hopes of preventing, or at least ameliorating, the problem of premature oxidation. However, levels this high can usually be detected in the wines for the first two years or so after bottling. Thus, if you want to try any of the Carillon wines young, I would strongly advise decanting them. The 2020s were bottled in March 2022 and I would add that they are superb, especially the brilliant BBM. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, [www.thereareandfinecompany.com](http://www.thereareandfinecompany.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com) and Charles Taylor Wines, E-mail: [charles@charlestaylorwines.com](mailto:charles@charlestaylorwines.com), all UK; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 11 different parcels in 7 *lieux-dits* scattered about Puligny with an overall average vine age of approximately 40+ years). A strikingly fresh, cool and pretty nose combines notes of citrus, acacia blossom and green apple. There is excellent underlying tension to the beautifully textured medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality that adds a sense of lift to the already complex, lingering and well-balanced finish. Lovely. (90-92)/2028+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 11 different parcels in 7 *lieux-dits* scattered about Puligny with an overall average vine age of approximately 40+ years). A very pretty, airy and cool nose is slightly riper than its 2021 counterpart while reflecting notes of green apple, citrus confit and floral wisps. The vibrant and beautifully detailed middleweight flavors are not super dense but do offer very fine depth and persistence. Note that this lovely Puligny *villages* could be enjoyed young or cellared for a few years first. 90/2026+

**2020 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from young vines in Les Voillenots Dessus that were replanted in 2013). Smoky notes of rosemary oil, white orchard fruit and citrus give way to attractively textured medium weight flavors that offer good if not special density while offering solid depth and persistence, if less refinement, on the lingering finale. I like the balance and if this can add depth with a few years of keeping, it might surprise to the upside. 89/2027+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Champs Canet”:** (40+ year old vines). A much more floral-suffused nose reveals its aromas of apple and pear compote, lemon rind and discreet spice elements. There is better volume and mid-palate density to the delicious and appealingly textured medium-bodied flavors that possess markedly better depth and persistence on the youthfully austere, balanced and nicely dry finale. This is quite promising. 92/2028+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Perrières”:** (from a 1.2 ha parcel of 35+ year old vines). Smoky aromas of citrus, green apple and a bit less floral influence precede the precise and tension-filled medium weight flavors that exude evident minerality on the youthfully austere though wonderfully persistent and solidly complex finale. This lovely if linear and serious effort should amply reward mid to even longer-term keeping. Excellent quality here. 93/2030+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts”:** (45+ year old vines). Here too there is a background whiff of smoke to the slightly riper and moderately floral-suffused aromas of primarily citrus and white fleshed fruit. The impressively dense and mouthcoating larger-scaled flavors terminate in a chalky and hugely long finish that coats the palate. This is terrific and as has been the case for years now, Carillon remains one of the reference standards for Les Referts along with Domaines Etienne Sauzet and Arnaud Ente. 93/2030+

**2020 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Cuvée 500 Ans:** (from a .1144 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines that generally are not very productive as they typically give bunches with very tiny berries; the special *cuvée* name is intended to celebrate the 500 years since the Carillon family installed itself in Puligny in 1520). Cool, elegant and wonderfully pure aromas include those of honeysuckle, essence of acacia, spice and a whiff of white peach. The succulent yet powerful medium-bodied flavors possess an absolutely gorgeous mouthfeel while retaining impeccable balance on the strikingly persistent finish. The Carillon BBM seems to always displays a highly sophisticated and classy texture and so it is again in 2020. In a word, brilliant. 96/2032+

### Domaine Sylvain Cathiard (Vosne-Romanée)

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to have more detail on Sébastien Cathiard's views of the 2021 vintage. He noted that the 2021 aligoté was bottled in April 2022. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Robert Rolls & Co., [www.robertrolls.com](http://www.robertrolls.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Clark Foyster Wines Ltd, [www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk](http://www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk), La Réserve, Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Raeburn Fine Wines, [www.raeburnfinewines.com](http://www.raeburnfinewines.com), Edinburgh, Atlas Fine Wines, [www.atlasfinewines.com](http://www.atlasfinewines.com), The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, [www.therareandfinewinecompany.com](http://www.therareandfinewinecompany.com) and Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com) all UK; Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY/NJ/CT, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, all USA; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk> and Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), both Hong Kong and Macau; Muiy Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Ultra-fresh and bright aromas include those of citrus, green apple and discreet spice elements. The racy and beautifully delineated middleweight flavors exhibit ample minerality on the bone-dry, delicious and crunchy finale where a touch of youthful austerity slowly emerges. One to two years of bottle age should see this well-made effort at its best. 87/2024+

### Domaine du Cellier Aux Moines (Givry)

<b>2020</b>	<b>Givry “Clos du Cellier aux Moines” 1er</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Givry “Clos du Cellier aux Moines – Les Dessus” 1er</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Montagny “Les Charmelottes Vieilles Vignes 1939” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>

The estate was created by Cistercian monks in the 12th century and later owned by a local family who held it for 2 centuries when the vineyard was finally leased to a Rully négociant in the 1970's. The Philippe Pascal family purchased the Domaine in 2004 and in 2006 when the lease ended, they produced their first vintage. The family manages their own vineyards and makes the wine and have moved from organic in 2016 to biodynamic in 2017. In 2012 they expanded beyond Givry with the acquisition of small parcels in Mercurey, Santenay (Beauregard), Chassagne Montrachet (Les Chaumées) and Puligny (Les Pucelles). For more information visit [www.cellierauxmoines.fr](http://www.cellierauxmoines.fr) or write [contact@cellierauxmoines.fr](mailto:contact@cellierauxmoines.fr). (Misa Imports, [www.misaimports.com](http://www.misaimports.com), TX, Tenzing Wine & Spirits, [www.tenzingws.com](http://www.tenzingws.com), IL, A.H.D Vintners, [www.ahdvintners.com](http://www.ahdvintners.com), MI, all USA).

### Reds:

**2020 Givry “Clos du Cellier aux Moines”:** Interestingly, while the nose is certainly ripe, it's not quite as ripe as the Les Dessus if otherwise similar. The nicely textured and vibrant middleweight flavors are not quite as dense yet they're a bit finer with an equally subtle bead of minerality to be found on the slightly rustic, noticeably warm and youthfully austere and dusty finale. Like its stablemate, the influence of the 2020 vintage is certainly apparent and as such, this would best be served slightly cooler than normal. 88/2027+

**2020 Givry “Clos du Cellier aux Moines – Les Dessus”:** A very ripe but not roasted nose features notes of black raspberry, poached plum and a hint of menthol. There is solid volume and an appealing texture to the delicious medium weight flavors that possess good energy before terminating in a mildly rustic, warm, dusty and youthfully austere finale. This lightly stony effort is sufficiently structured as to need 6 to 8 years to resolve its supporting structure. I would point out that this is very much marked by the vintage so it is not what I would describe as a typical Givry of refinement. 89/2027+

### Whites:

**2020 Montagny “Les Charmelottes Vieilles Vignes 1939”:** Discreet though still easily perceptible wood surrounds prominent petrol nuances on the apple, citrus and spice aromas. There is both good volume and punch to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess a round and plump mid-palate while a subtle minerality adds a sense of lift to the refreshing, clean and moderately dry finale where a smidgeon of warmth slowly emerges. This could use better depth, but more should develop if allowed 2 or so years of keeping. 89/2025+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** A relatively strong phenolic component (think olive oil nuances) dominate the lightly spicy aromas of honeysuckle, orange peel and green apple. The round, supple and almost easy-going medium weight flavors possess a more sophisticated mouthfeel if not the same minerality on the lingering if not especially complex and dry finale where a touch of wood slowly emerges. This is presently somewhat awkward as the finish is borderline attenuated even though I suspect that will gradually dissipate with a few years of keeping and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that it will. 90/2027+

### Maison Champy (Beaune)

2021	➡ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	➡ Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Edme	white	87
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	93
2021	Meursault	white	87
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses	white	88
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses “En Caradeux” 1er	white	90
2021	➡ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières” 1er	white	91
2021	St. Véran	white	87

For more detail on the 2021 vintage *chez* Champy, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. Technical director and head enologist Dimitri Bazas noted that the 2021 whites were bottled in September 2022. (Folio Fine Wine Partners, [rhopkins@foliowine.com](mailto:rhopkins@foliowine.com) CA, USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Wonderfully fresh and bright aromas of just sliced citrus and apple introduce equally energetic and well-detailed flavors that conclude in a chiseled, crisp and zesty finish. This refreshingly dry effort should benefit from 1 to 2 years of keeping to unwind a bit. Solid quality for the genre. 87/2024+



**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Edme:** Aromas of pear, apple, lemon zest and crushed fennel can be found on the energetic middleweight flavors that possess a more refined texture if perhaps not quite the same delineation on the equally dry, clean and crisp finale. This could arguably use slightly better depth but there is enough stuffing present that more complexity should reasonably develop if given a chance. 87/2025+

**2021 St. Véran:** (from Davayé and Prissé). Here the lightly wooded nose is sufficiently reduced as to be difficult to judge so be sure to give it some air first. More interesting are the sleek and intense medium weight flavors that exhibit a pronounced citrus character on the almost aggressively dry and austere finale. As the description suggests, this is somewhat awkward and while it may come together with a few years of cellaring, that's not a given. 87/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** A background hint of smoky mineral reduction blends with the fresh and bright nose that is very Meursault in character. There is excellent energy to the precise and delicious flavors that are quite fine if not especially dense on the dry and borderline bitter finale. Note that my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that the bitterness will successfully age out. 87/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (80% from Plants de Champs et Combottes with the rest from Derrière Frétille and Les Belles Filles). Whiffs of menthol and wood toast set off the aromas of green apple and pretty white floral nuances. The delicious and more overtly stony middleweight flavors display better length and balanced on the lightly citrus-inflected finale. Note that this could be enjoyed young or successfully aged for 4 to 7 years. 88/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "En Caradeux":** Cool and airy aromas are comprised by notes of white orchard fruit, plenty of citrus nuances and a suggestion of mineral reduction. The sleek, delicious and solidly concentrated flavors possess a lovely texture that is enhanced by evident minerality on the sneaky long and nicely balanced finale. This too could use better depth but more should progressively develop. 90/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières":** Moderate wood sets off riper aromas that blend notes of both white and yellow orchard peach, acacia and jasmine tea. There is both excellent volume and richness to the caressing medium-weight flavors that possess a suave mouthfeel along with even more evident minerality on the punchy, balanced and very dry finale. This too could use better depth which should almost certainly develop if given a chance. 91/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Pernand vines that made only 2 barrels in 2021). Distinctly cool and restrained aromas grudgingly reveal notes of green apple, lemon-lime, crushed fennel and wet stone. There is almost painful intensity to the tautly muscular larger-scaled flavors that also brim with minerality before culminating in a bone-dry and notably austere but not short finale. This is sufficiently compact and quite tightly wound so at least moderate patience will be necessary. 93/2031+

### **Domaine Chandon de Briailles (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton Blanc Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses "Ile de Vergelesses" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune "Saucours"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for François de Nicolay's thoughts and observations on the quality of the 2021 vintage. De Nicolay noted that there will be no Corton-Charlemagne in 2021 as what little was produced was blended into the Corton Blanc. (David Bowler, [www.bowlerwine.com](http://www.bowlerwine.com), NY, Beaune Imports, [www.beauneimports.com](http://www.beauneimports.com), CA, both USA; Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk) Farthinghoe Fine Wine, [www.farthinghoefinewine.com](http://www.farthinghoefinewine.com), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com) and Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), all UK).

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune "Saucours":** Hints of petrol and citrus zest add breadth to the aromas of green apple and humus. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the delicious and delineated middleweight flavors that conclude in a moderately dry and sneaky long finale where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. Note that while this could easily be enjoyed young, it should also repay 2 to 5 years of cellaring. (87-90)/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Ile de Vergelesses":** Here the nose is somewhat troubled by residual secondary fermentation aromas though it should have no trouble cleaning up once it is racked. On the palate there is excellent freshness to the almost painfully intense and markedly mineral-driven flavors that display excellent length on the chiseled, tightly coiled and compact finale. This is very backward and a wine that's going to need time before it's ready for drinking. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Corton Blanc:** (65% from Bressandes with the remainder from Les Chaumes though in 2021, the produce from Les Renardes was included). De Nicolay indicated that he may give this between 24 to 30 months of *élevage* so my tasting note should necessarily be viewed as provisory. Cool and admirably pure aromas of apple, white flower, anise and plenty of citrus influence are trimmed in barely discernible wood. There is outstanding size, weight and concentration to the muscular and serious big-bodied flavors that display evident austerity and minerality on the impressively persistent and well-balanced finale. This is clearly a work in progress, but the potential is obvious. (91-94)/2032+

### **Maison Chanson Père et Fils (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Beaune “Clos des Mouches” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Vergennes Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Les Caradeux” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune “Les Hauts Marconnets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

There is exciting news for fans of Chanson as it was just announced that it, through its parent Bollinger Group, has acquired 50 ha of vines in the Côte Chalonnaise, mainly in Mercurey and Rully, through its purchase of the Château d'Étroyes in Mercurey. When added to the 43 ha of vines it farms in the Côte de Beaune, together they make a significant domaine. With respect to the 2021 whites, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for director Vincent Avenel's take on the 2021 vintage. The whites saw no lees stirring and around 20% new wood. I would add that there are several very good wines in the range that are worth your interest, particularly the Chassagne “Les Chenevottes” and the Corton-Vergennes. (Vintus, [www.vintuswines.com](http://www.vintuswines.com), NY, USA; Mentzendorff, [www.mentzendorff.co.uk](http://www.mentzendorff.co.uk), UK; Jebson Beverage Co., [www.jebson.com](http://www.jebson.com), China/Hong Kong; Arcane Ltd., [www.arcane-jp.com](http://www.arcane-jp.com), Japan; Terroir Selections Pty Ltd, [www.terroir-selections.com.au](http://www.terroir-selections.com.au), Australia)

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** A vague whiff of the exotic can be found on the ripe and fresh aromas of white peach, petrol and discreet if perceptible wood influence. The rich and concentrated medium weight flavors possess fine underlying tension before concluding in a borderline tannic and slightly rustic finale. This is a robust but balanced Chassagne *villages* that should age well. 89/2027+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune “Les Hauts Marconnets”:** (from a whopping 2.2 ha parcel). A top note of mineral reduction is present on the cooler and airier aromas of citrus, white flower, green apple and enough wood to merit pointing out. There is slightly more energy suffusing the impressively dense, delicious and attractively textured flavors that could use better depth though I very much like the balance and persistence. Lovely and understated in style. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Les Caradeux”:** (from a similarly sized 1.90 ha holding). Here too there is just enough wood lurking in the background of the cool and airy aromas of apple, pear and crushed fennel. There is excellent mid-palate density to the bigger-bodied and stonier medium-bodied flavors that terminate in a very dry but not especially austere finale that is sufficiently firm to repay 5 to 8 years of keeping. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Beaune “Clos des Mouches”:** (from a huge holding of about 2.22 ha in chardonnay with another 2.03 ha in pinot). Pungent aromas of wood toast and reduction render the nose impossible to assess. More interesting are the rich and attractively energetic medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by citrus-tinged acidity on the dry, balanced and sneaky long finale. Fine development potential here. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** (from a large 1.90 ha parcel in Chenevottes proper). A beautifully layered nose combines notes of petrol, rosemary oil, white flowers, apple and pear. Here too there is excellent volume and drive to the relatively powerful and concentrated flavors that coat the palate with dry extract while delivering impressively good depth and persistence on the balanced finale. This is excellent and should repay up to a decade of keeping. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Vergennes:** (from a .66 ha holding). Here too there is a petrol character to the cooler and more elegant aromas of mostly green apple, Asian-style tea and high-toned floral whiffs. There is outstanding density to the almost painfully intense larger-scaled flavors that brim with minerality on the beautifully textured, compact and tightly coiled finale. This is also very backward but a wine that clearly possesses first-rate development potential. (92-94)/2031+

### Maison Chanzy (Bouzeron)

2020	Bouzeron "Clos de la Fortune"	white	86
2020	Bouzeron – Les Trois	white	87
2020	Mercurey "Le Bois Cassien"	white	87
2020	Mercurey "Les Caraby"	white	88
2020	Mercurey "Clos du Roy" 1er	white	87
2020	Mercurey "Clos les Bussières"	white	89
2020	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Reuchaux"	white	85
2020	➔ Rully "La Créée"	white	89
2020	Rully "Les Cailloux"	white	87
2020	Rully "Rabourcé" 1er	white	88
2020	➔ Rully "En Rosey"	white	90
2020	Santenay "Beaurepaire" 1er	white	88

Maison Chanzy was founded by Daniel Chanzy in 1974 in Bouzeron, located in the northern part of the Côte Chalonnaise. In 2013, a group of Burgundy wine lovers purchased Chanzy and have since added a second holding in Côte Chalonnaise and Côte de Beaune for a total of 66 ha planted. Chanzy produces about 250,000 bottles a year and their range spans 40 appellations in 8 villages of Côte Chalonnaise and Côte d'Or. The winery itself is in the village of Bouzeron where it owns 16 ha, including the monopole Clos de la Fortune. Vineyards are farmed without the use of herbicides and pesticides, instead opting for organic fertilizers and occasional plowing between rows. Chanzy is in the process of obtaining Haute Valeur Environnementale (HVE) certification. The wines receive a light fining and filtration before bottling with low amounts of sulfur oxide. Xavier Badinand took over the direction of the estate in 2018 and in January 2020 he appointed the new *maître de chai* (winemaker), Max Blondelle, former *maître de chai* at Domaine Chanson. The whites are bottled under the Diam brand of composite cork. (Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, USA).

**2020 Bouzeron "Clos de la Fortune":** (a monopole). A ripe, fresh and layered nose is very aligoté in character. The acceptably dense middleweight flavors possess reasonably good energy that progressively builds on the lightly rustic finish where touches of warmth and bitter lemon slowly emerge. While it is perfectly good technically speaking, this lacks a bit of personality and verve. 86/now+

**2020 Bouzeron – Les Trois:** Exuberantly fresh aromas include those of green apple, citrus and the barest whiff of pineapple. The attractively textured and nicely delineated flavors are not especially concentrated (though neither are they dilute) exude a subtle touch of minerality on the mildly austere and equally rustic finish that is clean, agreeably dry and refreshing. To enjoy on the younger side for its crunchy fruit and bright acidity. 87/2024+

**2020 Mercurey "Le Bois Cassien":** Cool and restrained aromas include those of petrol, admirably discreet wood and a mix of citrus and green apple nuances. There is an attractive mid-palate texture to the delicious and solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that possess good richness while exhibiting a moderately prominent bitterness in the form of lemon pith on the lingering if ever-so-slightly warm finale. It's hard to project whether the bitterness, which isn't subtle though neither is it overwhelming, will dissipate with bottle age. As such, my rating is on the conservative side. 87/2026+

**2020 Mercurey "Les Caraby":** This also displays plenty of citrus to the cool green apple and, interestingly enough, Chablis-like suggestions of iodine and quinine. The delicious and appealingly intense light to middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the clean, reasonably persistent and moderately dry finale where a touch of bitter lemon zest slowly appears. This won't win any awards for refinement but it's certainly satisfying in its fashion. 88/2026+

**2020 Mercurey "Clos du Roy":** An attractively spicy nose is actually quite similar to that of the Caraby, especially with the hints of quinine and iodine. There is better mid-palate density to the delicious and appealingly textured medium weight flavors that are plump yet reasonably precise on the balanced but not especially complex or precise finish that just sort of dies away. This is an odd wine as everything is actually lovely up until the finish that isn't at the same level. A curious showing. 87/2025+

**2020 Mercurey "Clos les Bussières":** (a monopole). Once again there are hints of quinine and iodine on the distinctly cool nose of citrus, green apple and a whiff of spice character. There is even better mid-palate density and verve if not quite the same refinement to the middleweight flavors, all wrapped in a mildly rustic if more persistent finish that could also use better depth. Even so, save for a minor touch of warmth, I like the balance and more depth should reasonably develop if given a few years of cellaring. 89/2026+

**2020 Rully “La Créée”:** The expressive nose blends notes of citrus rind with those of spice, cool essence of apple and a hint of wood. There is a bit more refinement to the round, plump and fleshy medium weight flavors that are generously proportioned while retaining reasonably good precision on the moderately dry, youthfully austere and ever-so-mildly rustic finale. Solid quality here in a package that could be enjoyed young or aged over the mid-term. Worth considering for its level. 89/2027+

**2020 Rully “Les Cailloux”:** A hint of matchstick character floats in the background of the wet stone, cool citrus and Granny Smith apple-scented nose. The mouthfeel of the middleweight flavors is finer though not denser and it’s certainly less generously proportioned while there is evident minerality adding a sense of lift to the markedly dry, youthfully austere and slightly short and compact finale. It’s not clear whether a few years of keeping will help the balance but at present, this is awkward and if not exactly disjointed, then it flirts with it. 87/2025+

**2020 Rully “Rabourcé”:** There is a Chablis-like hint of quinine to the lightly citrus-inflected nose of green apple and a whiff of spice. The delicious, round and plump middleweight flavors possess reasonably good energy on the rounded finale where a touch of bitter zest slowly emerges. This isn’t especially complex, but it is certainly agreeable and refreshing and should repay a few years of keeping if desired. 88/2025+

**2020 Rully “En Rosey”:** Here too there is a Chablis-like hint of quinine adding breadth to the decidedly cool and citrusy green apple-scented nose. There is excellent cut and energy to the delicious medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the youthfully austere, agreeably dry and sneaky long finish. This is sufficiently compact that it should be able to repay 4 to 7 years of keeping. Lovely and understated in style. 90/2026+

**2020 Santenay “Beaurepaire”:** Relatively prominent petrol notes don’t overshadow the aromas of soft wood, green apple and lime but they aren’t subtle. The wood is also noticeably present on the palate of the middleweight flavors that are plump, round and easy-going while flashing a discreet minerality on the agreeably dry finale where touches of rusticity and warmth slowly emerge. This is a bit woody for my taste though that is not a fault, just a stylistic preference. 88/2025+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Rechaux”:** There is a hint of something odd that isn’t exactly caramel but akin to it on the nose and while there is certainly good density and richness to the medium-bodied flavors, the slightly bitter finish also reflects a similar hint displayed by the nose. I found this to be both curious and atypical and to my taste, not particularly interesting. 85/now

### Domaine Clos de la Chapelle (Volnay)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune “Les Reversées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for owner and winemaker Mark O’Connell’s thoughts regarding the 2021 vintage. Note that the whites were bottled in December 2022. ([www.banvilleandjones.com](http://www.banvilleandjones.com), NY, NJ, DC, VA & MD; [www.pinnacleimports.com](http://www.pinnacleimports.com), MO; [www.courtierwines.com](http://www.courtierwines.com), CA; [www.dionysusimports.com](http://www.dionysusimports.com), TX; [www.ldfcompanies.com](http://www.ldfcompanies.com), KS; [www.martinewine.com](http://www.martinewine.com), LA; [www.websterbarnes.com](http://www.websterbarnes.com), FL, all USA; [www.vinorum.jp](http://www.vinorum.jp), Japan; [www.ackerwines.com](http://www.ackerwines.com), Hong Kong; [www.morandell.at](http://www.morandell.at), Austria; [www.movenpick.com](http://www.movenpick.com), Switzerland, Germany; [www.vinrosen.com](http://www.vinrosen.com), Denmark; [www.pembrokewines.ie](http://www.pembrokewines.ie), Ireland; [www.lamarcwines.com](http://www.lamarcwines.com), Norway; [www.bestofwines.com](http://www.bestofwines.com), NL).

**2021 Beaune “Les Reversées”:** An overtly floral nose combines notes of petrol and citrus zest with those of apple and anise wisps. There is both a lovely sense of energy and volume to the seductively textured medium weight flavors that terminate in a linear, clean and dry finale. This could use better depth but it’s already quite pretty and should drink well both young and with a few years of keeping. 89/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille”:** A cooler and airier nose features more citrus influences on the pretty floral, orange peel and petrol aromas where a top note of mineral reduction can be found. The markedly stonier middleweight flavors possess a beguiling sense of underlying tension while delivering good if not genuinely special length on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and balanced finale. A few years of keeping should help to add depth. 89/2026+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from En Charlemagne in Pernand). Subtle if still easily perceptible wood frames the equally cool and beautifully layered aromas of green apple, crushed fennel, Asian-style tea and wet stone. The gorgeously textured medium weight plus flavors possess a lovely blend of richness and precision, all wrapped in a moderately austere and strikingly long finish. This does need to develop better depth, but the potential certainly appears to be present for that to occur if held for 6 to 8 years first. Very promising. 93/2029+

### Jean Chartron (Puligny-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	90
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet "Clos des Chevaliers" Grand Cru	white	(93-96)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	90
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "1er" Vieilles Vignes 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos du Cailleret" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Pucelle" 1er	white	93
2021	Rully "Montmorin"	white	88
2021	St. Aubin "Murgers des Dents de Chien" 1er	white	90

Jean-Michel Chartron is the 5<sup>th</sup> generation of the family to direct this 14.5 ha domaine that owns some of the finest terroirs in Puligny. Chartron enthusiastically told me "I love this vintage even if there were a lot of reasons not to love it, starting with the April frost and then the growing season from hell. Despite everything that went sideways, what little fruit we did harvest brought us pure, precise, energetic and strikingly transparent wines. It depends on the style one likes of course but for those who enjoy old school vintages, the 2021s are perhaps the best wines we have made since 2014." I would agree with Chartron that there are several seriously good wines in his range. He noted that there will be no Montrachet in 2021. Chartron again noted that he's now using the Diam brand for the entire range whereas before it was only for the entry level wines. As such, he has reduced the level of free SO<sub>2</sub> from 40 ppm to 35 ppm. The following wines are mostly from domaine fruit though there are a few lower-level wines that are bought in either fruit or must. Lastly, most of the 2021 whites were bottled in January 2023. (Winebow Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), Montvale, NJ USA; and Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Rully "Montmorin":** (from a whopping 3.37 ha holding). Subtle but no invisible wood sets off agreeably fresh aromas of pear, apple and a touch of zest. The delicious middleweight flavors possess both good density and a beguiling sense of energy on the bitter lemon-inflected finish. This forward and nicely effort is attractive in its fashion and should drink well young. 88/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin "Murgers des Dents de Chien":** (from 4 parcels that total .51 ha). A similar if slightly cooler and more floral-inflected nose gives way to more intense, finer and more mineral-driven medium weight flavors that also possess very good mid-palate density, all wrapped in a lingering finish that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. This slightly firmer effort should also drink reasonably well young but also repay a few years of keeping. 90/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from a .55 ha holding that is mostly situated in Les Benoîtes, along with about 25% of 1er juice). A completely different aromatic profile offers up its aromas of petrol, rosemary oil, earth and a whiff of spice. There is first-rate intensity to the dense and solidly voluminous medium-bodied flavors that aren't as refined or mineral-driven but do offer more evident power and depth. This is a very good Chassagne *villages* and recommended. 90/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from a .45 ha holding in Les Tremblots, Les Levrons and Derrière la Velle). Here too there is just enough wood to merit mentioning setting off the cool, pure and more elegant aromas of essence of pear, apple and acacia blossom. The racy, intense and beautifully detailed middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality that adds a sense of lift on the lemony, moderately dry and sneaky long finale. This could also use better depth but the balance should allow this to age gracefully. This too is very good for its level and recommended. 90/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "1er" Vieilles Vignes:** (in 2021 this is entirely from Hameau de Blagny though usually there are contributions from Pucelle, Caillerets and Folatières). A more restrained and even cooler nose combines notes of green apple, lemon-lime and a pretty array of floral nuances. The borderline painfully intense medium weight flavors brim with minerality on the chiseled, saline and moderately dry finale that delivers excellent length and a lovely sense of balance. While this could also use a bit more depth, more will almost certainly develop if given a chance. Lovely stuff. 92/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Pucelle":** (a 1.16 ha monopole of the domaine though some production is sold). Cool, elegant and airy aromas are composed of honeysuckle, anise, apple, pear and a hint of jasmine. There is slightly better volume and richness to the middleweight that retain excellent intensity on the beautifully well-balanced finale. I would add that I very much like the texture as it reveals the sheer class of a fine Puligny. 93/2031+



**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Cailleret”:** (from a .99 ha holding that is no longer noted as a monopole on the label). A more reserved if equally airy and elegant speaks more of acacia, green apple and zest, all of which is trimmed in enough wood to notice. Here too there is excellent volume and punch to the medium-bodied that flash noticeably more minerality on the beautifully persistent finish. Like the Pucelle, this possesses a simply gorgeous texture that can be replicated by no other commune in the Côte. It's worth pointing out that the Pucelle and Cailleret are quite similar qualitatively but they offer two very different expressions. 93/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Le Charlemagne; only 1 barrel made in 2021). Once again there is an attractive coolness to the essence of green apple, spice and mineral reduction scents. There is superb delineation to the bigger-bodied and more powerful flavors that are at once muscular yet refined, all wrapped in a moderately austere finale where a touch of wood slowly emerges. This tightly wound and very promising effort should age like a classic Corton-Charlemagne. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .13 ha parcel on the Puligny side; 1.5 barrels made in 2021). Restrained and equally cool aromas are slightly riper with its mix of white orchard fruit, especially white peach, and a plethora of floral nuances. There is terrific punch to the seductively textured yet quite powerful medium weight plus flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and long if decidedly compact finish. Patience strongly advised as this should age beautifully and will need it. (92-95)/2031+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet “Clos des Chevaliers”:** (from a .55 ha holding). A deft though perceptible dollop of wood sets off the ultra-floral-scented nose of mineral reduction, petrol and a plenitude of spice wisps. The large-scaled flavors are borderline painfully intense while displaying an almost pungent minerality on the chiseled, youthfully austere and strikingly long finale. This is potentially brilliant. (93-96)/2033+

#### **Domaine Louis Chenu Père & Filles (Savigny-les-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne “Les Bruchots”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune “Saucours”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Please see Issue 90, or the Burghound database, for sisters Juliette and Caroline Chenu's views of the 2021 vintage. The sisters noted that they did no lees stirring during the *élevage* and that the 2021 whites were bottled in August 2022. (Paul M. Young Fine Wines, [www.pywine.com](http://www.pywine.com), CA, Chambers & Chambers Wine Merchants, [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), CA, Sour Grapes, [www.sourgrapeswine.com](http://www.sourgrapeswine.com), NC, Bon Vivant Imports, [www.bonvivantimports.com](http://www.bonvivantimports.com), OR, Bizou Wines, [www.bizouwines.com](http://www.bizouwines.com), LA, all USA; Decorum Vintners, [www.decvin.com](http://www.decvin.com), UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Canada; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne “Les Bruchots”:** An exuberantly fresh and expressive nose freely offers up its aromas of green apple, citrus zest and floral hint. There is excellent punch to the delicious middleweight flavors that are not especially dense but do offer a refreshing, clean and dry finish. To enjoy upon release. 86/now+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune “Saucours”:** (this old vineyard was co-planted with pinot blanc). A top note of mineral reduction is present on the vaguely exotic nose of petrol, white fleshed fruit and a suggestion of mandarin orange peel. Here too there is a lovely sense of energy to the more mineral-driven flavors that possess both better depth and persistence on the bone-dry and equally refreshing finish. This too should drink well young. 88/2024+

#### **Domaine Chevalier Père et Fils (Ladoix-Serrigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Prés Charmots”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Ladoix</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Chloé Chevalier succinctly described the 2021 growing season as “exceptionally difficult, both from a morale and physical perspective as the problems just seemed to come in waves, one after another. We didn't protect the vines as we're just too spread out to do so and as such, we suffered heavy losses. They were however variable as the pinot came in between 12 and 44 hl/ha while the chardonnay was pretty consistent at 14 hl/ha. We picked from the 20<sup>th</sup> of September and the fruit required a great deal of sorting, which was painful to throw out so much fruit when you already knew yields were going to be miniscule. What we kept though was ripe and clean and there was almost no chaptalization in red and only a few wines in white. Overall, I was frankly extremely skeptical that we would produce anything of real quality but once the malos finished, I have to say that the wines aren't bad and I'm someone who's never really happy with them. For once, they're actually okay considering.” Chevalier noted that the 2021s were bottled unfiltered. Lastly, several of the whites were not presented as they are already

sold out given the tiny quantities. (AP Wine Imports, [www.apwineimports.com](http://www.apwineimports.com), NY, USA; Liberty Wines, [www.libertywine.co.uk](http://www.libertywine.co.uk), and Majestic Wine Warehouses, [www.majestic.co.uk](http://www.majestic.co.uk), both UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Prés Charmots”:** A bright, fresh and cool nose is quite spicy while displaying notes of green apple and citrus rind. The racy and utterly delicious middleweight flavors are not especially dense, but they do offer a highly refreshing, clean and dry finish that is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity. Lovely for the genre and worth considering. 87/2024+

**2021 Ladoix:** (from Champ Puset, Les Issards, La Blancharde, Les Toppes Coiffées and La Mort). Riper aromas include those of petrol, citrus confit, pear and a subtle application of wood. The rich, caressing and more concentrated medium weight flavors also conclude in a clean, moderately dry, refreshing and more complex finale. Note that this delicious effort should drink well young while also repaying short to possibly mid-term keeping. 88/2026+

### **Domaine Bruno Clair (Marsannay-la-Côte)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay – Source de Roche</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Morey St. Denis “En la Rue de Vergy”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

Bruno Clair's sons Edouard and Arthur have largely taken over the day-to-day responsibilities of running the domaine and this year the tasting was conducted by the latter. His view of the 2021 vintage was brutally straightforward in that "my father, who has been doing this for decades, calls it the most difficult in a very long time. The frost wiped out fully 50% of the crop in pinot and an incredible 70% in chardonnay. We of course tried to protect some of the earliest budding vineyards with warming candles but they didn't seem to do much good. However, if that's all that we faced it wouldn't have been so bad but the disease pressure, especially botrytis as we neared the harvest, was notably problematic. We picked from the 22nd of September and some parcels needed careful sorting and others almost none at all. Potential alcohols were perfectly fine at between 12 and 12.5% and a few wines were chaptalized." (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; The Source Imports, [www.thesourceimports.com](http://www.thesourceimports.com), CA, Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Terroir Imports, [www.terroirimports.net](http://www.terroirimports.net), CO, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Pinnacle Imports, [www.pinnacle-imports.com](http://www.pinnacle-imports.com), MO, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, all USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Direct Wine, [www.directwine.co.uk](http://www.directwine.co.uk), Gunson Fine Wines, [www.gfwl.co.uk](http://www.gfwl.co.uk), Nickolls and Perks, [www.nickollsandperks.co.uk](http://www.nickollsandperks.co.uk), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A fresh and quite spicy nose combines notes of green apple with plenty of citrus nuances. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, bone-dry and quite austere finale, in fact this might be a bit too much austerity for some. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Marsannay – Source de Roche:** (from vines situated exclusively on the slopes in Charmes aux Prêtes, Les Vaudenelles and Le Boivin). A more floral-suffused nose is also cool and pretty while introducing notably denser and more finely textured flavors that exude a lightly stony character on the equally bone-dry if less austere finale. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Morey St. Denis “En la Rue de Vergy”:** Discreet if easily perceptible wood toast sets off the ripe and cool aromas of mostly apple, pear and lemon zest. There succulent and seductively textured flavors exude more evident minerality on the impressively long, refreshing and more complex finale. This is a lovely version of the appellation that should make for good younger drinking but also repay mid-term keeping. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from yields of only 15 hl/ha in 2021). Highly restrained if not mute aromas are comprised by notes of green apple, just sliced lemon, anise and plenty of mineral reduction character. There is both excellent intensity and minerality to the big-bodied and powerful flavors that conclude in a bone-dry, linear and borderline strict finale that doesn't have the length it usually does. This of course may change but it would be fair to say that it's awkward today. (90-92)/2029+

### Domaine Christian Clerget (Vougeot)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Morey St. Denis “Les Crais”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to obtain Justine Clerget's view of the 2021 vintage. (Pignatiello Wine Importer, [www.pcommsswines.com](http://www.pcommsswines.com), NC, USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), UK and Champagnes et Châteaux, [www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk](http://www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Morey St. Denis “Les Crais”:** (from vines planted in 2002 to a mix of 10% pinot beurot and pinot blanc and the other 90% is chardonnay). A fresh, bright and cool nose is comprised by notes of citrus rind, green apple and just sliced fennel. The delicious and nicely vibrant middleweight flavors conclude in a youthfully austere and moderately dry finale that offers fine length if only average depth. To drink young. (88-90)/2024+

### Domaine Coche-Dury (Meursault)

<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Chevalières”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Genevrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Rougeots”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

Raphaël Coche runs this storied domaine that exploits 10.5 ha of vines and buys in the equivalent of another 4.5 ha. He briefly described 2020 as “a hot and dry vintage that produced both fine quality and surprisingly good quantities given the heat. In the same vein, we were pleasantly surprised by the reasonable potential alcohols as they came in between 12.5 and 13.5%, perhaps specifically because yields were good. I was frankly very worried that the acidities might be too low but in fact, the wines are actually quite energetic. They have also changed enormously during the *élevage* and 2020 is definitely a vintage where the wines needed extended oak contact. As to the style of the 2020 whites, I would compare them to our 1990s. I say this because they are ripe and rich yet dynamic wines that are borderline tannic so they should age well.” Coche noted that the 2020s were bottled in April 2022. The Corton-Charlemagne was not presented as it was inadvertently forgotten! I would add that the 2020 Perrières is especially good and even better than it usually is, which as fans know is saying something! The Genevrières, Rougeots and the Enseignères are also particularly outstanding. (Kermit Lynch, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, USA; Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com) and Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), both UK; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia).

**2020 Bourgogne:** (90% from Les Magny and 10% from La Belle Côte). There is a trace of reduction, but it seems reasonably clear that the underlying fruit is both ripe and cool. There is outstanding mid-palate density to the delicious middleweight flavors that culminate in a long, balanced and complex finish where the only nit is a touch of rusticity. This is excellent for its level and highly recommended. 88/2026+

**2020 Meursault:** (from Les Chaumes de Narvaux and En La Barre). A more elegant and very Meursault nose combines notes of acacia and citrus confit with those of hazelnut and white orchard fruit, all of which is trimmed in a discreet application of wood. Here too there is outstanding density to the more powerful mouthcoating flavors that possess a more sophisticated texture while displaying excellent persistence on the balanced finish that is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity. This is lovely and a wine that should easily repay 10 to 12 years of keeping. 91/2030+

**2020 Meursault “Les Rougeots”:** A perfumed and ultra-pure nose offers up a broad array of aromas that include lemon, acacia and mineral reduction. The finer but not denser medium weight flavors are notably stonier while preserving the same gorgeous texture as well as delivering noticeably better depth and persistence. This is stunning good for a *villages*-level wine plus it should amply repay extended keeping. 93/2032+

**2020 Meursault “Les Chevalières”:** (from a tiny .12 ha parcel). A cooler and more restrained nose is just a bit more elegant with its more evident mineral reduction and citrus nuances adding breadth to the green apple and acacia blossom scents. The finer but not denser lighter weight flavors seem to be built on a base of almost aggressive minerality that carries over to the very dry and sneaky long finish where a touch of youthful austerity slowly emerges. This will need to develop better if it's going to rival the Rougeots or the Enseignères though it might well do that if given sufficient time. Excellent. 92/2032+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** (from a .80 ha parcel just under Bienvenues-Bâtard). Cool, perfumed and airy aromas of jasmine tea, violet, lilac, acacia, essence of pear and a touch of wood precede the gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors that brim with dry extract, if less obvious minerality, on the powerful, robust and bone-dry finale. This is perhaps a bit less elegant than it usually is though with that said, it displays more of it immediacy with Bâtard in 2020. 93/2032+

**2020 Meursault “Les Genevrières”:** The hallmark nuances of exotic tea are present on the wonderfully elegant, airy and distinctly cool aromas of white flowers, essence of pear and a touch of mineral reduction. There is excellent delineation to the super-intense yet refined and stony medium weight flavors that deliver huge length, along with more power than usual, on the impeccably well-balanced finish. While I hesitate to describe this as atypical, it is certainly more robust and tautly muscular than it usually is, which should allow this strikingly good effort to age effortlessly for years to come. In a word, splendid. 96/2035+

**2020 Meursault “Les Perrières”:** (from a .67 ha holding in Perrières Dessus). There is an abundance of mineral reduction to the aromas of lemon-lime, anise, just sliced green apple and ample citrus wisps. There is again superb mid-palate density thanks to the generous level of dry extract that buffers the very firm acid spine where the aggressive minerality adds a sense of lift to the incredibly persistent finish. As is always the case, this is very backward and tightly coiled though it is already so good that I could still taste it two days later! Brilliant and if you can find it, buy it. 97/2035+

#### **Domaine Bruno Colin (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Boudriotte” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “La Truffière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Le Charmois” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Sur Le Sentier du Clou” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

Bruno Colin, who is now farming a slightly larger amount of vines thanks to his father Michel splitting the remaining amount of his holdings between Bruno and his brother Philippe (see below), briefly noted that “we got badly hit by the frost and the growing season that followed was no picnic. We picked from the 21<sup>st</sup> of September and while yields were off about 70% in white on average, some were off fully 90%. Expressed differently, we averaged right at 15 hl/ha with potential alcohols that ranged between 12 and 13%. As to the wines, they are frankly much better than I would have thought given our growing season conditions. They are fresh, beautifully transparent and exquisitely well-balanced. Stylistically, I would compare them to a denser version of 2014.” It's worth observing that Colin has been on an impressive roll as of late as his 2019s and 2020s were outstanding and there is much to admire in his range of 2021s as well. If you by chance are not familiar with the wines, you owe it to yourself to amend that oversight! I would remind readers that there is no Demoiselles for the next several years as the vineyard has been replanted. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA and William Gladstone Imports, [www.williamgladstoneimports.com](http://www.williamgladstoneimports.com), NY/HI, both USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Gunson Fine Wines, [www.gfwl.co.uk](http://www.gfwl.co.uk), Nickolls and Perks, [www.nickollsandperks.co.uk](http://www.nickollsandperks.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A super-fresh nose is very aligoté in character with its spicy and citrusy green apple scents. There is both good volume and punch to the caressing and saline-inflected flavors that deliver good if not special depth and persistence on the clean and lemony finish. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (raised two-thirds in stainless and the rest in cask). A slightly riper nose features notes of just sliced apple, lemon rind and a whiff of petrol. The racy and beautifully delineated middleweight flavors are supported by bright but not drying acidity on the clean and citrus-inflected finish that possesses slightly better depth. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune:** This is even aromatically cooler with its nose where the citrus character is even more pronounced. Once again there is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the solidly concentrated and stonier flavors that conclude in a bone-dry and moderately austere finale that isn't exactly strict but it's close. To enjoy young. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin "Le Charmois":** A discreet application of wood sets off intensely floral-suffused aromas of mostly citrus and pear. Somewhat curiously, the middleweight flavors are not as concentrated though they are at once finer and more seductive, all wrapped in an agreeably dry and only moderately complex finale. This is perfectly good but not special, though a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. (87-90)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin "Sur Le Sentier du Clou":** A strikingly fresh nose freely reveals its notes of the essence of white orchard fruit, especially pear and apple, along with crushed fennel and lemon-lime. The racy and beautifully delineated medium weight flavors possess a lovely sense of tension while exhibiting notably better depth and persistence. Lovely and fashioned in an understated style. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 9 different *lieux-dits*). Ripe and fresh aromas include those of rosemary oil, petrol and just sliced pear and apple. The succulent and solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors flash focused power on the rustic but impressively long finale. This is really quite good for what it is and worth considering. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chaumées":** This is the first wine to display any appreciable reduction and here it's enough to overshadow everything but discreet citrus wisps. There is both more volume and more refinement to the beguilingly textured medium weight flavors that possess a gorgeous mouthfeel and particularly on the balanced, complex and lingering finish. This is already quite lovely and should only improve with bottle aging. (91-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Vergers":** (from Les Pasquelles). Here too reduction blurs the detail on the ripe aromas of white orchard fruit and petrol. The racy and even more refined flavors are less generously proportioned though they do possess very good density while displaying fine length. This isn't quite as complex as the Les Chaumées though that may well change with age. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chenevottes":** (from Chenevottes proper). Pretty, even perfumed, aromas of mostly white orchard fruit, floral and spice give way to dense, intense and palate staining middleweight flavors that also possess a highly seductive texture that contrasts with the youthfully austere finale that flashes notably better complexity. This firm and tightly coiled effort is beautifully balanced and should age accordingly. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "La Maltroie":** (from Ez Crets). Firm reduction entirely masks the nose today. More interesting are the energetic medium weight flavors that once again possess a really lovely texture before terminating in a superbly persistent, balanced and super-clean finale. This chiseled effort should drink well both young and with age. (91-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot":** (from Francemont). Reduction again masks the fruit. Otherwise, there is even better density and power to the broad-shouldered flavors that are notably less refined though they are more muscular and particularly so on the robust and borderline rustic finale. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Boudriotte":** (from Champ Jendreau). Much more subtle reduction allows notes of white orchard fruit and petrol to be discerned. The slightly finer though still robust and powerful flavors possess solid mid-palate density though the finish comes up a bit short as it's slightly drying. Given how good the portfolio of Chassagne 1ers is this year, my projected range offers the benefit of the doubt that this will better harmonize once it's bottled. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "En Remilly":** (from a .46 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines that produced only 350 L of wine in 2021). A wonderfully fresh and airy nose features notes of zest, spice, white flower and crushed pear. There is almost painful intensity to the more mineral-driven is less powerful medium weight flavors that also come across as slightly lean if not really short. Again, my predicted range offers room for optimism. (89-92)/2028+



**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus”:** A background touch of wood adds breadth to the smoky aromas of petrol, citrus, green apple and a hint of anise. Somewhat surprisingly, the middleweight flavors are not particularly dense though there is an almost pungent minerality to the moderately austere, bone-dry and balanced finale. This isn't as powerful and muscular as it usually is and while I wouldn't describe this as a Blanchot Dessus of refinement, it is certainly finer than is typical. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Truffière”:** (from 2 parcels of vines, one of which is 40+ years old and the other is still relatively young). A spicier nose freely offers up a combination of green apple, plenty of floral influence and a whiff of citrus confit. The super-sleek, intense and beautifully detailed medium weight flavors exude ample minerality on the balanced bitter lemon-inflected finale. This could use better depth but the innate class of a fine Truffière is clearly on display. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** Here too there is a note of green apple along with hints of white flower, mineral reduction and a Chablis-like iodine nuance. There is a lovely sense of tension to the nicely detailed if not especially dense flavors that exude a refreshing stoniness on the citrusy finish that could also use better depth. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a tiny .04 ha parcel). Here too there is a prominent smoky mineral reduction component to the elegant and pure if restrained aromas of zest, acacia blossom and an interesting whiff of shellfish. There is outstanding density to the markedly powerful larger-scaled flavors that brim with minerality on the intense, compact, serious and built-to-age finale. This chiseled effort is old school in style and one that is definitely going to need patience. Terrific. (93-96)/2033+

### **Maison Joseph Colin (Gamay/St. Aubin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Jardins de la Côte”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne “Les Hauts de la Combe”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Le Trézin”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Champlots” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “La Chatenière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin – Compendium</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Clos du Meix” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Frionnes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Murgers des Dents de Chien” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin – OSA 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>

Joseph Colin professed to being “extremely surprised, if very happy, with the quality of the wines we produced in 2021. I say this because first of all, the growing season was obviously extremely difficult and ripeness levels were perfectly okay but not great. I picked over a relatively long period spanning from the 20<sup>th</sup> of September to the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. Second, yields varied enormously, from a low of 6 hl/ha to a high of 40 hl/ha and the 1ers were the worst affected and there will be no Chevalier or Bâtard. Third, once the wines had finished their primary fermentation, I was flabbergasted at how acidic they were and I thought to myself that ‘these will be the worst wines you’ve ever made!’ Happily, the wines completely changed after the malos were finished and transformed from the proverbial ugly ducklings to beautiful swans! I am now a big fan of the vintage though it certainly would be nice to have had more volume.” Colin is justifiably proud of his ‘21s and several of the wines are very much worth your attention. Colin also noted that he has now reduced new wood to no more than 10% and that he is now bottling everything under the Diam brand Model 30 composite cork. Moreover, and impressively given the range of wines, many of them were bottled by hand. Readers should note that Colin does everything possible to have as much CO<sub>2</sub> in the wines to preserve them in the absence of high levels of SO<sub>2</sub>. He generally bottles between 15 to 17 months after the harvest and in 2021 they were bottled in November 2022 without fining or filtration. He shoots for no more than 25 ppm of free SO<sub>2</sub> along with close to 1,200 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub>. The idea is to produce wines as naturally as possible but without some of the deviations that plague natural and/or low sulfur wines (Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk) and Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), both UK; and Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Jardins de la Côte”:** A spicy and exceptionally citrus-inflected nose precedes highly energetic flavors that are equally citrus-inflected before concluding in a bone-dry, crisp and crunchy finish. This is both inviting and refreshing if not especially complex. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne “Les Hauts de la Combe”:** (from Puligny vines). A slightly riper nose features notes of pear, apple and petrol along with more subtle citrus influence. There is better mid-palate density to the attractively textured middleweight flavors that deliver fine length and better depth on the clean and dry but not austere finale. This is very good for its level and worth considering. 87/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin – Compendium:** (for the US market this is labeled as ‘Mes 7 Terroirs’). A cooler and more floral-suffused nose reflects notes of green apple, lemon-lime and a hint of orange peel. The sleeker though not denser flavors offer more evident minerality and excellent definition on the youthfully austere, moderately dry and balanced finale. This should drink well early but also with a few years of keeping. 88/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin “Clos du Meix”:** A subtle application of wood frames equally cool aromas of mostly pear and apple that are laced with zest nuances. There is both excellent cut and minerality to the appealingly dense and textured medium-bodied flavors that flash focused power on the saline, dry and linear finish. A few years of keeping should prove useful as this is fairly compact at present. 89/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Frionnes”:** This is also aromatically quite cool with its more floral-suffused nose of mineral reduction and green apple scents. The racy and overtly stony middleweight flavors possess fine concentration on the linear, firm and lingering finish that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. Frionnes typically adds weight and flesh with age and 5 to 7 years of keeping should see this at its best. 90/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Champlots”:** Riper though still quite fresh and bright aromas include those of apple compote, acacia blossom and a suggestion of crushed star anise. There is good volume to the nicely concentrated and fleshy medium weight flavors that possess a sappy mouthfeel that buffers the bone-dry, youthfully austere and balanced finale. Here too a few years of cellar time should prove beneficial. 90/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin – OSA:** (OSA is an ancient name for St. Aubin; the blend is composed by four 1ers). A markedly restrained if pretty nose grudgingly offers up its array of citrus, floral and mineral reduction notes. The racy and very sleek medium-bodied flavors exude a bracing salinity on the firm, compact and linear finish. This is notably austere and a bit lean though my sense is that this will flesh out with bottle age. With that said, I would advise buying this only if you have the intent to cellar it. 90/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “La Chatenière”:** Here the equally restrained nose is dominated by a smoky petrol character along with background citrus nuances. There is slightly better volume and mid-palate density to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess a lovely texture and evident minerality on the very dry and lingering but not really austere finale. Lovely. 91/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** (from both En Remilly and Les Cortons). Ripe aromas include the hallmark prominent citrus elements together with floral and mineral reduction nuances. There is better volume still to the caressing but punchy medium weight flavors that possess a succulent mouthfeel while exhibiting excellent minerality on the sneaky good length. This is very good and worthy of considering. 92/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Murgers des Dents de Chien”:** Moderate reduction is sufficient to mask the underlying fruit so be sure to give this some air first. More interesting are the caressing, even suave, medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also buffers the compact, youthfully austere and dry finale that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. While not exactly awkward, this isn’t quite as well-balanced and harmonious as the better wines in the range. 89/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Le Trézin”:** An overtly floral-suffused nose, especially lilac, displays additional notes of green apple and smoky mineral reduction. The energetic medium weight flavors flash excellent minerality on the delineated, sappy and lingering finish. This is usually one of my favorite wines chez Joseph Colin but in 2021 it lacks depth, indeed it’s presently somewhat one-dimensional. Aging should help of course but it’s not clear this will ever be truly distinguished for its level. 88/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from Les Meix Goudard, Blanchot Dessous and En Journoblot). A more complex if not more elegant nose combines notes of resin, petrol and pear with a range of citrus nuances. There too the medium-bodied flavors possess a beguiling texture that is at once rich yet focused while evidencing good power on the impressively long finish. This could also use better depth but in this case I’m more optimistic that will occur in time. 89/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne”:** A wonderfully pure and airy nose of green apple and lemon-lime is complemented by hints of wet stone and crushed fennel. There is excellent cut to the tension-filled medium weight flavors that also flash good minerality on the chiseled, balanced and lingering finale. Good stuff fashioned in an understated style. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes”:** (from Chenevottes proper; only one barrel made in 2021 versus the usual four). Once again the nose is both cool and restrained with its very pretty essence of pear, petrol and rosemary oil wisps. There is both excellent volume and mid-palate density to the balanced, complex and lingering finale. This is finer than it usually is and while the words refinement and Chenevottes are rarely used together in the same sentence, they are apt here. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse”:** This is aromatically similar to the Chenevottes if not quite as restrained. As is typically the case, the medium weight plus flavors are richer and more voluminous but less refined while offers excellent length on the succulent, even seductive finish that is markedly dry though not especially austere. This well-made effort should nicely repay up to a decade of cellaring., 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** Prominent notes of petrol, mineral reduction and lemon zest add breadth to the spicy aromas of white and yellow peach. There is outstanding density to the overtly stony medium-bodied flavors that are rich to the point of opulence while delivering superb length on the balanced, complex and built-to-age finish. **This is terrific** and absolutely worth your interest. 94/2031+

#### **Domaine Marc Colin (Gamay/St. Aubin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “En Cailleret” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet – Margot</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Le Trézín”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Santenay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “La Chatenière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin – Luce</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “En Montceau” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>

Damien Colin remarked that “as odd as it might sound, I’m actually perfectly okay with the fact that our volumes were way down because if they hadn’t been, the chardonnay would have never properly ripened. We picked from the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and yields were all over the place as they varied from off 20% to off fully 80%. In fact, yields in a few parcels were so low that we’ve had to combine them into blends, particularly in St. Aubin and Chassagne and we made less than a barrel of both the Bâtard and the Montrachet. What I found initially curious with the wines is that immediately after they finished their primary fermentations, they were almost sweet, which I simply could not understand. However, as the *élevage* progressed, the wines have, in a sense, ‘dried out’ and have become much more typical. I like them quite a bit, both stylistically but also just in terms of absolute quality because they’re entirely classic, indeed probably the most classic since 2014.” Colin noted that he did no lees stirring in 2021 and that the wines will be bottled without fining or filtration. As was the case with both the 2019 and 2020 vintages, I was again impressed with the quality I found and the domaine just seems to continue to go from strength to strength. (A.P.S., [www.apswine.com](http://www.apswine.com), CA, Casa Bruno Wines, <http://www.casabrunowines.com>, OR, Michael Corso Selections, [www.corsowines.com](http://www.corsowines.com), IL, Old World Importing, Inc., [www.oldworldimporting.com](http://www.oldworldimporting.com), CO, A. Bommarito Wines, [www.abommaritowines.com](http://www.abommaritowines.com), MO, Allied Beverage Group, <https://alliedbeverages.com>, NJ, Terroir Selections, <https://terroir-selections.com>, FL, Michael James Fine Wine, <https://www.michaeljamesfinewine.com>, NY, MacArthur Beverages, [www.bassins.com](http://www.bassins.com), DC, all USA; Berkmann Wine Cellars, [www.berkmann.co.uk](http://www.berkmann.co.uk), Vine Trail, [www.vinetrail.co.uk](http://www.vinetrail.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), all UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Canada; Kerry Wines, [www.kerrywines.com](http://www.kerrywines.com), Watson's Wines, [www.watsonswine.com](http://www.watsonswine.com), Hong Kong; Pivene Pte. Ltd., <https://www.pivene.com>, Singapore; Euan McKay Wine Merchant, [www.euanmckay.com.au](http://www.euanmckay.com.au), Australia; Enoteca Bonatti, <http://enotecabonatti.it>, Enoteca Pinchiorri, <https://enotecapinchiorri.it>, Italy; Moestue Grape Selections AS, <https://moestue.com>, Norway; Les Trois Bouchons, <https://les3bouchons.com>, La Cave de Reverolle, [www.cavedereve.ch](http://www.cavedereve.ch), Switzerland; La Cavinière, <http://www.lacaviniere.be>, Gorsco Bvba, [Burghound.com](https://clos-d-</a></p>
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**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from Puligny and Chassagne vines). There is a whiff of reduction but the underlying fruit does seem ripe. On the palate there is both good volume and detail to the delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and crunchy finish. This is potentially very good for its level. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin – Luce:** (from La Fontenotte, En Vermarain à l'Est, and En Choilles). Very firm reduction renders the nose difficult to assess. Otherwise, the sleek, succulent and admirably dense flavors are quite rich, even opulent, while the moderately dry and youthfully austere finish possesses just enough acidity to maintain proper balance. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Santenay:** (from Prarons). Here too firm reduction limits what I can say about the nose. On the palate though there is both good freshness and punch to that delicious medium weight flavors that display fine length on the stony, mildly rustic and chiseled finale. This is also really quite good for what it is and a wine that should offer good value. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet – Margot:** Bright and fresh aromas of resin, petrol and lemon zest introduce slightly bigger and richer though less mineral-driven flavors that are at once generous but reasonably precise on the lingering and agreeably dry finale. This relatively forward effort could use better depth so I would suggest holding it for a few years first. (88-90)/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** (from 80+ year old vines). Once again firm reduction overshadows the fruit. By contrast, there is outstanding volume and mid-palate density to the powerful yet refined medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by bright acidity on the impressively persistent finish. This is lovely and a particularly good Puligny *villages* that should repay 6 to 8 years of keeping. Recommended. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Le Trézin”:** (from 45+ year old vines). Cool and exceptionally pretty aromas include those of green apple, just sliced citrus and a suggestion of acacia blossom. There is both excellent volume and punch to the delicious middleweight flavors that exude a bracing salinity on the youthfully austere, balanced, dry and sneaky long finish. This is always one of Colin's best *villages* wines and so it is again in 2021. This is also recommended. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “1er”:** (from 5 different 1ers; Colin noted that this might be bottled with a *cuvée* name). Prominent reduction masks everything except a background hint of citrus. There is outstanding density and intensity to the refined medium-bodied flavors that terminate in a mildly sweet finish that is offset by bright acidity. This beautifully textured effort could also use better depth but the potential to develop more appears to be present. (90-92)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “La Chatenière”:** This is also firmly reduced as all that can be discerned is a dollop of wood toast. More interesting are the dense, succulent and slightly finer flavors that are plump but punchy while offering good length on the clean and slightly drier finish that would also benefit from having better depth. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** The hallmark citrus elements of a fine En Remilly are certainly present here along with notes of green apple, pear and crushed fennel. The rich and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess very fine mid-palate volume while a subtle bead of minerality adds a sense of lift to the clean and dry finale. Once again, more depth would be desirable so a few years of keeping should be helpful in that regard. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Montceau”:** An overtly floral-suffused nose displays background notes of pear and more subtle citrus influence. The sleek, intense and equally rich medium weight flavors also flash evident minerality on the firmer, youthfully austere and more complex finale. This is often Colin's best St. Aubin 1er and it appears to be so in 2021 as well though I would underscore that it's going to require at least a few years of patience. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “1er”:** (this combines fruit from Chenevottes and Champ Gains, which are typically bottled separately). Moderate reduction dominates the nose. There is by contrast a really lovely texture thanks to the abundant dry extract that imparts a sappiness to the succulent flavors that exhibit good length on the clean, dry and mildly rustic finale. Like many of the wines in the range, this could use a few years of keeping in the hopes of developing better depth. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “En Cailleret”:** Pure, airy and ultra-fresh aromas are comprised by notes of zest, white flowers, mineral reduction and a hint of spice. There is almost painful intensity to the aggressively mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that are akin to rolling rocks around the mouth on the moderately austere, compact and built-to-age finale. This is excellent and a wine that should easily repay 10 to 12 years of cellaring. Worth considering. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse”:** (from 60+ year old vines). Firm reduction. The delicious and vibrant flavors don't have their usual volume and muscle though they are more refined and precise while delivering focused power on the beautifully long and borderline tannic finish. This beauty is also packed with development potential. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .15 ha parcel on the Chassagne side that abuts Vide Bourse; 210 L were produced in 2021). A ripe and exuberantly fresh nose freely reveals its aromas of vaguely exotic fruit, Asian style tea and plenty of floral elements. There is again both fine density and a highly beguiling texture to the firm, balanced, youthfully austere and strikingly persistent finale. This is a lovely if compact Bâtard that should age gracefully over the next 12-ish plus years. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from a .11 ha parcel of 75+ year old vines on the Chassagne side; 200 L were produced in 2021). Elegant, pure and airy aromas are more floral-inflected and even spicier with plenty of citrus influence, all wrapped in just enough wood to remark upon. There is excellent intensity to the racy, precise and stony medium-bodied flavors that aren't as concentrated as they normally are but by contrast, they're finer all while retaining outstanding power on the focused, balanced and equally compact finale. This is very backward and a wine that's going to need the better part of 10 years to even be approachable. I would expect that 12 to 15 years should see this at its best. (93-96)/2033+

### **Domaine Philippe Colin (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chaumées – Clos St. Abdon" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chenevottes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Demoiselles" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin "Les Combes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

There are big changes at this domaine as Philippe Colin has ceded a large part of the domaine to his son Simon (see immediately below for the details) in much the same way that his father Michel did when he split the domaine between he and his brother Bruno (see also above). Briefly though, Simon will be taking over roughly two-thirds of the vines, but Philippe will retain the more prestigious white vineyards, which is again exactly what Michel did some years ago. As is usually the case, Philippe was again at his domaine in South Africa preparing for the harvest. His assistant Emmanuel presided over the tasting and briefly noted that the "harvest began on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September and we brought in ripe and clean fruit though not much of it. Average potential alcohols were quite good at about 13% and we aged the wines exclusively in 500L barrels. In addition to the parcels that went to Simon, there was too little fruit to make a cuvée of En Remilly." (Cape Classics [www.capeclassics.com](http://www.capeclassics.com), NY and William Gladstone Imports, [www.williamgladstoneimports.com](http://www.williamgladstoneimports.com), NY/HI, both USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com) and Berkman Wine Cellars, [www.berkman.co.uk](http://www.berkman.co.uk), all UK; Watson's Wines, 852.2606.8828, [www.watsonswine.com](http://www.watsonswine.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Subtle though still easily perceptible wood is present on the ripe aromas of apple, pear and soft citrus wisps. There is a lovely sense of energy to the dense and palate soaking flavors that terminate in a delicious, refreshing and lingering finish. This mildly rustic effort is really quite good and worth a look. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 4 different *lieux-dits*). Fresh aromas include notes of resin, petrol, white orchard fruit and an even more subtle application of oak. There is excellent concentration to the caressing yet vibrant and quite powerful medium weight flavors that also flash a touch of rusticity on the bitter lemon-inflected finish. Also worth a look. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin "Les Combes":** Here the wood is more prominent though not invasive on the markedly floral-suffused aromas of essence of pear, citrus confit and a hint of wet stone. There is good volume to the sleek, refined and minerally middleweight flavors that culminate in a balanced and persistent finish where the wood slowly resurfaces. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chaumées Clos St. Abdon":** (from a holding of .43 ha as 1.07 ha was transferred to Simon Colin). Firm reduction masks the fruit though there is good freshness to the vibrant and beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate in sappy dry extract, all wrapped in a lemon, bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. This is quite firm at present but I suspect that it will be approachable after only 5-ish years. In a word, lovely. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chenevottes":** (from a .49 ha holding). A cool, pure and airy nose reflects notes of the essence of white orchard fruit, lemon-lime and subtle oak. There is again and really lovely texture to the vibrant and highly seductive middleweight flavors that also conclude in a clean, bone-dry and impressively long finale where a touch of bitter lemon character can be found. This is surprisingly powerful and a wine that should age gracefully. (90-93)/2028+



**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles”:** (from a holding of .18 ha). This possesses the most floral-inflected nose in the range, along with background nuances of green apple, lemon-lime and discreet spice wisps. The beautifully sophisticated medium weight flavors brim with minerality while exhibiting first-rate length on the youthfully austere finish. This stylish and very classy effort is already impressively complex and may well be the best example of this wine in years. (92-95)/2031+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a .28 ha parcel). Subtle but not invisible wood frames equally cool and pure aromas that are also markedly floral in character along with plenty of spice wisps. There is excellent intensity to the concentrated, indeed almost thick and opulent, flavors that exude ample minerality on the compact, powerful, serious and bone-dry finale. This is a big, rich and lush Chevalier that should also be capable of extended keeping though be approachable young. (93-95)/2031+

### **Domaine Simon Colin (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

This is an exciting new domaine that owes its origins to Simon's grandfather Michel Colin (of Domaine Colin-Deléger), who split his domaine in two stages between his sons Philippe and Bruno (see both above). Simon's father Philippe has initiated the same approach and has gifted 9.30 ha of his domaine to Simon in the proportion of 6.3 ha in white and 3 ha in red. Breaking it down further, 40% will be in 1ers, 40% in *villages* and 20% in regional appellations. For 2022 he will have a Les Chaumées Clos St. Abdon but in 2021, the yields were so low that he combined the two parcels to make a blended Les Chaumées. Simon has had a varied apprenticeship as he worked with his father from 2014 to 2017 and then in South Africa, Adelsheim in Oregon and then 4 years with Domaine Sauzet (see below). He began a small *négociant* operation while he was at Sauzet and finally came to an agreement with his father to buy the building and equipment to begin on his own account with his father's vineyards. Colin is in the process of applying for organic viticulture certification. For the whites, he allows the must to 'break' (turn brown) followed by 100% barrel fermentation, mostly using the 350L format instead of the tradition 228L size where about one-third of it is new. While there is no lees stirring, Colin does however use a large quantity of lees as he likes the texture doing so imparts. The *élevage* typically lasts about 15 months and while he will fine the whites if necessary, they are never filtered. The two examples of Bourgogne are bottled using the Diam brand composite cork while the upper level whites are bottled under natural cork though with a diameter of 25mm instead of 24mm. As the scores and commentaries make clear, Colin is a real talent and it's rare to see a brand new domaine perform so well. If you can find the wines, don't hesitate as you're in for a treat. (Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), NY, DC Flynt MW Selections, [www.dcflyntmw.com](http://www.dcflyntmw.com), LA, both USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), both UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A classic aligoté nose of green apple, citrus and spice elements precedes the sleek, intense and utterly delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and lemony finish that is not especially austere. This is very good for what it is and worth considering. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Here too the ultra-fresh nose exhibits notes of green apple and zest though with more petrol and less spice influences. There is outstanding density to the medium-bodied flavors that are unusually powerful, all wrapped in a lingering and balanced finale. This is excellent for its level and a wine that could be enjoyed young or aged for 2 to 3 years to good effect. 88/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** Cool, fresh and airy aromas include those of petrol, rosemary oil and just sliced pear. Once again there is excellent density to the caressing but powerful and punchy flavors that deliver fine length on the balanced and moderately dry finale. This would benefit from better depth so a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumées”:** A discreet application of wood can be found on the cooler and more restrained aromas of citrus rind, apple and a floral top note. The racier and more refined but not denser medium-bodied flavors exude evident minerality on the beautifully textured, lengthy and balanced finish. This chiseled effort is sufficiently tightly wound to reward up to a decade of keeping. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers”:** (from 2 parcels in Les Vergers proper and another in Pasquelles). This is also discreetly wooded with an aromatic profile of white orchard fruit, zest, especially orange peel, and a touch of mineral reduction. The lilted but almost painfully intense flavors possess a gorgeous texture while delivering even better length on the very dry, balanced and coiled finale. This is excellent. 93/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** A mild touch of reduction presently blurs the nuances of what are clearly ripe fruit aromas. There is even better volume and mid-palate density to the beautifully textured flavors thanks to the abundance of sappy dry extract that also serves to buffer the firm acid spine on the strikingly long, impeccably well-balanced and harmonious finish. This is terrific and **worth a special search**. 94/2031+

### **Pierre-Yves Colin-Morey (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune – Au Bout du Monde</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Monthélie</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Champlots” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “La Chatenière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “1er” – Hommage à Marguerite 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

Pierre-Yves Colin described the 2021 growing season as “one where we basically were kept on edge from start to finish. But the frost was a really tough way to begin and we spent a lot of time trying to protect the vines with warming candles. Thankfully it helped and we of course focused on the grand crus but unfortunately, the 1ers got largely crushed. Then, during the summer we had a variety of problems of which the oidium was clearly the worst. In fact, it was so bad that we finally used products that aren’t organic as those that are just weren’t giving the vines the protection that they needed. We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and yields were literally all over the place as they ranged from almost normal for the regional wines to -30% for the grand crus to -60% for everything else. Potential alcohols ranged right around 12% so most wines were chaptalized between .5 and .8%. Maturities though were frankly better than I expected with good but not really high acid levels. Stylistically, the 2020s remind me somewhat of a more acidic 2008 though we will see if they eventually develop the same trace of exoticism. I don’t plan to bottle until July as the wines are still quite backward due to the exceptionally late malos. More importantly, they seem to still be improving month by month, so I see no benefit to hurrying matters.” Colin-Morey noted that he aged everything in 350L barrels and bought in almost nothing in terms of his négociant wines. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, William Gladstone Imports, [www.williamgladstoneimports.com](http://www.williamgladstoneimports.com), NY and Bertin Henri Selections, [www.bertinhenriselections.com](http://www.bertinhenriselections.com), FL, all USA; A&B Vintners, [www.abvintners.co.uk](http://www.abvintners.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from a mix of Meursault, St. Aubin, Puligny and Chassagne). A super-fresh nose is comprised mostly by notes of citrus and apple scents. The racy, delicious and agreeably textured middleweight flavors offer enough depth, persistence and development potential to warrant a few years of cellaring. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune – Au Bout du Monde:** A broad-ranging nose features notes of mineral reduction, pear, white flower and hints of wood and zest. The sleek, delicious and more mineral-inflected flavors also terminate in a clean and dry but not especially austere finale. This is very good for its level. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Monthélie:** (from Les Plantes and Les Crays). Here too there is a subtle application of wood to be found on the aromas of petrol, pear and apple. The round and fleshy medium-bodied flavors are both rich and succulent while exhibiting good length on the clean and dry finish where the wood resurfaces. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (from Le Banc, Le Bas de Monin and En Choilles). Like the Bourgogne, this is also super-fresh with its aromas of just sliced citrus, green apple and wet stone hints. The sleek, energetic and precise middleweight flavors exude ample minerality on the clean, refreshing, very dry and lightly austere finale. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “1er” – Hommage à Marguerite:** (50% is from Les Combes with the rest from En Créots and Les Perrières). Moderate wood influence still allows the cool aromas of white flowers and petrol to be appreciated. There is a bit more volume if perhaps not quite the same underlying tension to the medium weight flavors that terminate in a stony and lingering finish that is quite dry while offering notably better depth. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Champlots”:** Here there is enough reduction to blur everything but a hint of citrus character. The mouthfeel of the vibrant and delicious medium-bodied flavors is sleek, even polished, while delivering excellent length on the rich, dry and balanced finale. This could use better depth but more should almost certainly develop with bottle age. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “La Chatenière”:** Here too there is enough reduction to render the nose difficult to assess. Otherwise, there is excellent punch and minerality to the beautifully textured medium weight flavors that conclude in a precise, stony and wonderfully refreshing finish. This balanced effort is quite dry but not really austere and a wine that should repay 5 to 8 years of keeping. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** Ripe and agreeably fresh aromas are comprised mostly by lemon confit and white flowers. The generously proportioned middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality that adds lift to the focused and balanced finale that could also use a bit more depth. In contrast to several of these St. Aubin 1ers, this should drink well young. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes:** (from Les Houillères, En Journoblot and Les Beuttes). Moderate reduction masks everything but a touch of petrol character. The attractively textured and generous medium weight flavors possess good underlying tension while displaying fine length on the clean and sneaky long finish. I like the balance and would suggest allowing this 5 to 8 years of cellaring in order for better complexity to develop. Lovely and worth considering. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Narvaux, Luchets, Les Vireuils and Malpoiriers). There is enough wood to merit pointing out setting off the nutty white orchard fruit and floral scents. Here too the medium-bodied flavors possess a lovely texture that is at once seductive and punchy, all wrapped in a lemon-tinged, moderately dry and agreeably sleek finish. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “1er”:** (from Les Baudines, Chenevottes and Abbaye de Morgeot). Here too there is enough wood to mention framing a cool mix of both white and yellow orchard fruit, especially peach, along with hints of petrol and rosemary oil. There is better volume to the bigger-bodied and lightly stony flavors that offer solid depth and balance, yet the length on the citrusy finish comes up a bit short. I suspect that this will better harmonize once it is in bottle for a few years. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne”:** A much more floral-suffused nose speaks primarily of green fruit and just squeezed citrus. The delicious, racy and beautifully detailed middleweight flavors exude an abundance of minerality on the lemony, very dry and lengthier finish. This solidly concentrated effort needs to develop better depth but the potential is here. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (the proportions have changed again and in 2021 this is a blend of Les Languettes in Aloxe and En Charlemagne in Pernand). Firm reduction flattens the fruit today. More interesting are the succulent and concentrated larger-bodied flavors that retain a beguiling sense of energy that carries over to the intensely stony and hugely long finish where a touch of wood appears. This is tightly coiled and a wine that is going to require extended patience. (93-95)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .075 ha parcel on the Chassagne side that sits on the Puligny border). An exuberantly fresh and floral-suffused nose also displays notes of green apple and citrus confit. There is excellent richness and power to the focused middleweight flavors that evidence a taut muscularity on the impressively persistent finale. Excellent development potential here. (93-96)/2033+

### **Domaine Edouard Confuron (Vosne-Romanée)**

**2021 ➡ Bourgogne Aligoté**

**white**

**87**

The young Edouard Confuron, who is the son of François Confuron of Domaine Confuron-Gindre, has struck out on his own as of the 2021 vintage with vines allocated to him by his father. He presently farms 1.8 ha and makes 7 appellations, which are the six reviewed below plus a Bourgogne-Aligoté. The stated approach is basically to not have one as he uses from zero to 100% whole clusters while using no sulfur during the vinification lasting 15 to 20 days. The amount of new wood is variable and at this point, he gave his 2021s a light polishing filtration. He freely admits that he's still figuring out how to best adapt his facilities and bare minimum equipment to the volume, which should increase over the next few vintages. My take is that this is a pretty good debut in a difficult vintage with minimal equipment, so quality is very likely to improve with the next few vintages.

(Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK; and Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** (100% stainless). A classic aligoté nose of green apple, citrus and spice introduces rich, delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors that possess both a lovely texture and density before concluding in a refreshing and bone-dry finish that stops just short of austerity. To enjoy young. 87/2024+

#### **Domaine Jean-Jacques Confuron (Prémeaux-Prissey)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Côte de Nuits-Villages “La Montagne”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to have Louis Confuron's take on the 2020 vintage. He noted the 2020s were bottled between October 2021 and January 2022 using the Diam brand composite cork. (Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR, USA; Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong and China).

**2020 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Spicy aromas of apple, pear and lemon zest introduce vibrant and solidly dense middleweight flavors that offers better than average depth and persistence on the agreeably dry but not austere finale. This offers very good quality for the genre in a package that should drink well young. 87/2024+

**2020 Côte de Nuits-Villages “La Montagne”:** A more floral if less citrus and spice-inflected nose flashes notes of green apple and just sliced fennel. Here too there is very good energy to the attractively textured medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the moderately dry, clean and sneaky long finale. Note that this should also drink well young. 88/2024+

#### **Domaine Edmond Cornu (Ladoix-Serrigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chorey-lès-Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Ladoix</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

To have Pierre Cornu's views of the 2021 vintage, please see either Issue 90 or the Burghound searchable database. Cornu told me that the domaine now allows the must to 'break', meaning that they allow it to oxidize before the fermentation so that more fragile elements can be eliminated. He further noted that the whites were bottled in November and December 2022. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; McKinley Vintners, [www.mckinleyvintners.co.uk](http://www.mckinleyvintners.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A background hint of reduction blurs the nuance of the aromas of spice and citrus. There is excellent density to the racy and delicious middleweight flavors that conclude in bracing lemon rind-inflected finale where a touch of youthful austerity gradually emerges. 86/2024+

**2021 Chorey-lès-Beaune:** (from Les Champs Longs). There is a whiff of the exotic on the nose of lychee, white peach and more subtle citrus elements. The suave, even lush, medium weight flavors deliver acceptable length on the moderately rustic finish that is supported by lemon-tinged acidity. This is refreshing but a bit one-dimensional. 86/2024+

**2021 Ladoix:** Cool and pretty aromas include those of essence of pear and apple along with a floral hint. The succulent, round and delicious flavors offer slightly better depth on the moderately dry and rustic finale. While this could easily be enjoyed young, 2 to 3 years of keeping might help to develop more complexity. 87/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Les Corbins). Smoky aromas of petrol and various white orchard fruit scents lead to rich, generous and more concentrated medium-bodied flavors that display better depth and persistence on the lightly citrus-inflected finale. Like the Ladoix, this could be enjoyed young or held for a few years first. 88/2026+

### Domaine du Couvent (Gevrey-Chambertin/Nuits St. Georges)

2021	Marsannay “Les Longeroies”	red	(87-89)
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Please see Issue 89 to have Philippe Chéron's opinions on the 2021 vintage. No importers were provided at this time.

**2021 Marsannay “Les Longeroies”:** (from a .35 ha holding). Fresh and bright aromas include those of pear, apple, citrus and a hint of smoke. The succulent, round, delicious and attractively vibrant middleweight flavors are shaped by lemon-tinged acidity before concluding in a nicely dry but not really austere finish. This easy-going effort should drink well young as well as repay a few years of keeping. (87-89)/2024+

### Domaine des Croix (Beaune)

2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(91-93)
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Please see Issue 90, or the Burghound database, for a detailed description of *régisiseur* David Croix's views of the 2021 vintage. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com) is the US agent; Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [nedbenedict@gmail.com](mailto:nedbenedict@gmail.com), NY/NJ, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, AOC Imports, email [holly@aocimports.com](mailto:holly@aocimports.com), CA, Cordon Selections, [www.cordonselections.com](http://www.cordonselections.com), WA, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK; Racines, [yasukogoda@racines.co.jp](mailto:yasukogoda@racines.co.jp), Japan; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Bibendum Wine Co., [www.bibendum.com.au](http://www.bibendum.com.au), Australia).

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Le Charlemagne). Cool, pure, airy and exceptionally pretty aromas of wet stone, green apple, spice and citrus zest are complemented by the moderately dense and highly energetic medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the very dry, balanced and impressively long finale. This youthfully austere effort could use better depth though more should almost certainly progressively develop if given a chance. I would add that I like the understated style. (91-93)/2028+

### Domaine Pierre Damoy (Gevrey-Chambertin)

2019	➤ Bourgogne “Les Ravry”	white	87
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For Pierre Damoy's views on the 2019 vintage as well as why he's chosen to present his wines later than most, please see Issue 81 or the Burghound database. (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL and Jeroboam Wines, [www.jeroboamwines.com](http://www.jeroboamwines.com), NY, USA; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2019 Bourgogne “Les Ravry”:** Bright if definitely ripe aromas include those of petrol, straw, apple and a suggestion of citrus confit. There is solid density to the nicely vibrant middleweight flavors that possess better than average depth and persistence on the clean, moderate dry and bitter lemon-inflected finish. Good quality here for the appellation plus it should repay a few years of keeping. 87/2025+

### Domaine Vincent Dancer (Chassagne-Montrachet)

2021	Bourgogne	white	86
2021	➤ Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune	white	87
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morqeot” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Meursault “Les Corbins”	white	(88-91)
2021	➤ Meursault “Les Grands Charrons”	white	(89-92)
2021	Vin de France – Oskar	white	(90-93)



Vincent Dancer's son Théo, who since 2020, has taken on the day-to-day responsibilities for running this 6.2 ha domaine. His take on the 2021 vintage was simple and direct, "we got crushed by the frost and the growing season thereafter was no kinder. We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and our yields in chardonnay were only 5 to 6 hl/ha, which is basically nothing. In fact, there was so little that I didn't even try to separate out most of the cuvées. For example, what I am calling Oskar is a combination of the Perrières, Tête du Clos, La Romanée and the Chevalier and even with the entire production of those four vineyards, there will only be 800 bottles!" I ask Dancer why he chose to bottle the Oskar as a Vin de France instead of Bourgogne or Coteaux Bourguignon, which would be the only permissible appellations because the wine is blended across communes. His response was also simple and direct, "I thought about it but Vin de France is more original. Besides, I always wanted to make a Vin de France so this was the perfect occasion for it." I can't disagree, it is certainly original as it very likely has the highest-quality vineyards of any Vin de France ever made! He further noted that the 2021 whites will be bottled unfined and unfiltered. (A&B Vintners, [www.abvintners.co.uk](http://www.abvintners.co.uk), UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, [www.imperatricewine.com.hk](http://www.imperatricewine.com.hk), Hong Kong/Macau; Mui Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China).

**2021 Bourgogne:** (from vines in Puligny and Meursault). Bright and cool aromas are comprised by notes of lemon-lime, green apple and a hint of spice. The racy middleweight flavors possess an appealing mouthfeel that carries over to the crisp, clean and nicely dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy young. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune:** (2021 is the first vintage for this wine). A markedly cool nose reluctantly offers up its aromas of mineral reduction, freshly sliced apple and plenty of citrus elements. The almost painfully intense flavors are not quite as dense, but they are both finer and stonier with a similarly crisp and dry finish that offers just a bit more overall depth. This is worth considering and a wine that should also drink well on the younger side. 87/2024+

**2021 Meursault "Les Corbins":** Firm reduction dominates the fruit though there is a lovely freshness and underlying tension to the attractively textured medium weight flavors that tighten up noticeably on the balanced, long and youthfully austere finale. This could use better depth but more should reasonably develop if given a chance. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault "Les Grands Charrons":** (from a .29 ha parcel planted in 1958). This is also quite firmly reduced and aromatically unreadable. There is slightly better volume to the caressing but punchy medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the sappy, balanced and lingering finish that offers notably better complexity. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot":** (from a high-density plantation of the equivalent of 20,000 vines per ha planted in 2013 in La Grande Borne). Once again firm reduction knocks down the nose to the point that nothing is discernible. More interesting are the beautifully textured, concentrated and highly seductively middleweight plus flavors that deliver excellent persistence on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and serious finale. This is excellent but at least some patience will be necessary and ultimately, it should reward up to a decade of keeping. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Vin de France – Oskar:** (this blend is a combination of Perrières, Tête du Clos, La Romanée and the Chevalier-Montrachet, note that all of the fruit was co-fermented; about 800 bottles will be produced). Firm reduction completely masks the underlying fruit. On the palate, there is both excellent richness and minerality suffusing the larger-scaled and powerful flavors that possess fine intensity on the equally bone-dry, linear and austere finish. This is honestly tough to read as it's extremely compact and a bit short today but I suspect that it will eventually harmonize and my projected range offers the benefit of the doubt. (90-93)/2029+

#### Maison Edouard Delaunay (Nuits-Saint-Georges)

2020	Chablis "Fourchaume" 1er	white	90
2020	Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Baudines" 1er	white	89
2020	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	89
2020	➡ Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	91
2020	Puligny-Montrachet "Le Village"	white	87

Delaunay is a small *négoce* based in L'Etang Vergy, outside of Nuits-Saint-Georges in the Hautes Côtes. Originally founded in 1893, it basically disappeared in the early 1990's. It has now been revived by the founder's great-grandson, Laurent Delaunay, and his wife Badet Clément. Their first vintage was in 2017 and the winemaker is Christophe Briotet. For more information visit: [www.edouard-delaunay.com/en/wine-club?age=1](http://www.edouard-delaunay.com/en/wine-club?age=1)

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Le Village”:** Whiffs of petrol and smoky reduction presently blur the nuances of what appear to be mostly white orchard fruit scents that are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is both good volume and mid-palate density to the delicious and nicely vibrant flavors that possess an appealing texture while displaying good if not special depth and persistence on the ever-so-mildly edgy and noticeably warm finish where a touch of bitter citrus character slowly emerges. 87/2025+

**2020 Chablis “Fourchaume”:** An agreeably fresh nose has just enough classic Chablis character in the form of citrus, iodine and a hint of sea breeze to be persuasive. The sleek and energetic flavors aren't as concentrated as those of the Puligny but they are finer as well as better defined on the lightly stony, clean and focused finale that offers solid length if limited depth. Still, I suspect that this will develop more depth if allowed a few years of keeping. 90/2026+

**2020 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Baudines”:** A mildly fruity nose reflects notes of lychee, citrus confit and cool floral wisps. There is good energy to the delicious and appealingly textured middleweight flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the clean, linear and dry-in-the-best sense finish that offers acceptable persistence if only average depth. There is an unusual sense of rusticity as Baudines is typically notably refined as well as a touch of warmth, so I would suggest serving this on the cooler side. To be sure, this is perfectly good but I wouldn't describe it as distinguished. 89/2026+

**2020 Meursault “Charmes”:** Moderate wood sets off slightly phenolic-tinged aromas of various white orchard fruit, especially apple and pear, along with hints of acacia and fennel. The more refined and attractively textured medium weight flavors possess good delineation as well as a dollop of minerality that adds a sense of lift to the borderline tannic and youthfully austere finale. This is in need of at least a few years of keeping as it's presently relatively tightly wound and should ultimately prove to be the most interesting wine among this range. 91/2028+

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** Here too moderate wood is present on the ripe aromas of petrol, citrus confit and a curious hint of something akin to lanolin. The oak extends to the palate of the succulent middleweight flavors that possess good sap before terminating in a bitter lemon-suffused finale that offers acceptable depth and persistence. To be sure, this is perfectly good but not distinguished in the context of its level and an excellent white Burgundy vintage. 89/2016+

#### **Domaine Derey Frères (Couchey)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté Cuvée Albert</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne “Clos des Marcs d’Or”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>

This moderately large 21 ha domaine, founded in 1650, is now run by the three sons of Pierre Derey, Maxime, Romain and Pierre-Marie. Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database for information about the 2021 vintage. They noted that the whites were bottled in August 2022. (Banville Wine Merchants, [www.banvillewine.com](http://www.banvillewine.com), NY, USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Cuvée Albert:** A ripe, spice and mildly exotic nose gives way to solidly dense and rich flavors that conclude in a refreshingly dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy young for its exuberant fruit. 86/now+

**2021 Marsannay:** (from En Pilleul). A subtle application of wood can be found on the mix of green apple and citrus aromas. There is a lovely sense of energy to the nicely rich and appealingly textured flavors that deliver good length if only slightly better depth. Even so, this is highly refreshing and should make for good summer sipping. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne “Clos des Marcs d’Or”:** (a small .15 ha monopole). Smoky aromas include those of just sliced lemon, apple and an equally subtle application of wood. The racy and delicious if less concentrated flavors display good length on the linear and citrusy finish. 86/2024+

### Maison Joseph Drouhin (Beaune)

2021	➔ Beaune “Clos des Mouches” 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” Marquis de Laguiche 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(92-94)
2021	Mâcon-Lugny “Les Crays”	white	87
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	Pouilly-Vinzelles	white	88
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	89
2021	Saint-Romain	white	88

As is usually the case, I met with Véronique Drouhin who described 2021 as “a vintage of compromise where we had to make a sort of calculus between having the best maturities while trying to preserve some reasonable volumes. This is because we already began the season in a difficult position due to the frost and then the wet and mostly cool conditions contributed to some of the worst disease pressure that we’ve seen since 2013 and 2016 combined! To say it was a challenging growing season would be a considerable understatement. We chose to begin picking on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and there was a huge amount of sorting required, mostly for mildew though with some botrytis, as well as a bit of underripe berries. While the potential alcohols were actually better than expected in the context of a cool summer, the yields were some of the lowest we have ever obtained. However, I wish to stress that they were extremely varied, ranging from almost normal to literally nothing. We vinified lightly using some whole clusters for most wines and then did a careful pressing followed by an equally careful lees settling to be sure to eliminate anything that wasn’t of the very best quality. I was frankly skeptical about the reds early on as they seemed to lack body and character. However, once the malos finished, the wines progressively improved and became both more convincing and in particular, much better-balanced. The maturities in white were heterogenous and it was necessary to be ultra-careful with the pressing and lees settling to be absolutely certain that we were working with the cleanest lees possible. We did do some lees stirring so as to add body as the whites seemed a bit skinny initial though they really filled out during the *élevage*. Overall, 2021 is not a great vintage but it’s one that appeals to me personally, especially for its combination of energy and terroir transparency.” (Dreyfus, Ashby & Co., [www.dreyfusashby.com](http://www.dreyfusashby.com), NY, USA; Pol Roger Ltd., [www.polroger.co.uk](http://www.polroger.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Mâcon-Lugny “Les Crays”:** Pretty, ripe and fresh aromas of various white orchard fruit and citrus exhibit a floral top note. There is both good volume and energy to the delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean and dry finale. This is built on its fruit and should make for uncomplicated summer sipping. 87/2024+

**2021 Pouilly-Vinzelles:** A slightly cooler and airier nose reflects notes of petrol, apple, green tea and a similar floral top note. The slightly finer and more obviously mineral-inflected flavors possess good richness on the equally clean and dry finish that offers slightly better depth. This generously proportioned effort could be enjoyed young or aged for a few years first. 88/2025+

**2021 Saint-Romain:** This is cooler still with its decidedly airy aromas of green apple, acacia blossom and a panoply of citrus elements. The medium weight flavors are less concentrated but notably finer with plenty of minerality, indeed the mouthfeel is like rolling a tiny pebble around the mouth, all wrapped in a youthfully austere and beautifully delineated finish. This could use more depth so a few years of aging should be beneficial. 88/2025+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** A more floral and more elegant nose reveals its aromas of essence of just sliced citrus, mineral reduction and crushed fennel nuance. There is a lovely sense of verve to the utterly delicious flavors that are especially dense but do possess a beguiling refinement as the innate class of Puligny is very much present on the very dry, focused and youthfully austere finale. This is lovely and worth considering. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** Moderate wood sets off the cool aromas of pear confit, acacia blossom and pretty spice wisps. There is very fine density to the relatively generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that exude the hallmark minerality of a fine Perrières that adds a sense of lift to the impressively long finish where hints of wood and sweetness appear. I suspect that the sweetness will gradually dissipate as the wood is more completely integrated. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Beaune “Clos des Mouches”:** There is a vague whiff of the exotic lurking in the background of the slightly sweet nose of white peach and lychee along with a floral hint. The succulent, round and very rich flavors are generous but not really opulent while delivering fine punch on the lightly stony, clean, dry and citrusy finale. This impressively persistent and well-balanced effort could use better depth but the Drouhin Clos des Mouches has an impeccable aging track record. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” Marquis de Laguiche:** (from Le Grand Clos and Vignes Blanches). This is also quite floral in character, which adds a touch of elegance to the aromas of petrol, rosemary oil and citrus confit. The succulent and caressing yet decidedly powerful medium-bodied flavors also conclude in a bone-dry, citrusy and youthfully austere finale. This is also very well-balanced but quite tightly coiled and a wine that is going to need at least some patience. Worth your interest. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a .33 ha parcel in Les Languettes). There is just enough wood setting off the cool and attractively layered nose of violet, green apple, spice and mineral reduction to warrant pointing out. There is excellent concentration to the quite powerful larger-scaled flavors that conclude in a linear, citrusy and chiseled finish that flashes superb length. This is extremely promising though here again, patience strongly recommended. (92-94)/2031+

### **Domaine Dubreuil-Fontaine (Pernand-Vergelesses)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Clos Berthet” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound searchable database for Christine Dubreuil's take on the 2021 vintage. Specifically with respect to the whites, she noted that “yields for the chardonnay were off between -30 and -80%”. (A.P.S., [www.apswine.com](http://www.apswine.com), CA, DB Wine Selection, [www.dbwinselection.com](http://www.dbwinselection.com), MA, Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), TX and Voix de la Terre, [www.vdtwine.com](http://www.vdtwine.com), NY, all USA; Direct Wine, [www.directwine.co.uk](http://www.directwine.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** Cool and airy citrus-inflected green apple scents introduce the nicely concentrated and intensely minerally middleweight flavors that terminate in a bone-dry, moderately austere and sneaky long finale. This delicious effort is sufficiently tightly wound to repay 4 to 7 years of keeping. 88/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille”:** (from a .5 ha parcel in sous Frétille proper). A more complex and broad-ranging nose reveals notes of petrol, mineral reduction, green apple and plenty of citrus influence. There is better volume to the energetic that offer excellent density and richness while displaying fine length on the equally dry bitter lemon-suffused finale. This is sufficiently pliant that it could be enjoyed young, but I would opt to hold it for 5-ish or so years. 90/2027+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Clos Berthet”:** (a monopole of the domaine, 1.21 ha of which is planted to chardonnay). Smokier aromas include those of cool white orchard fruit, wet stone and a hint of crushed fennel. The mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors isn't as concentrated but it's finer with good minerality that carries over to the youthfully austere finale that is certainly dry but not bone-dry. Lovely. 90/2027+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from two parcels in En Charlemagne that total .7 ha). A more restrained and slightly riper nose speak primarily of petrol, zest, apple and prominent floral elements. There is solid density and richness to the broad-shouldered and notably powerful flavors that culminate in a very dry and moderately austere finish that exhibits excellent length. I would add that this is not so backward that it couldn't be approached after 5 or so years yet it definitely has the stuffing to repay 10 to 12 years of keeping. 93/2031+

### **Domaine Dujac (Morey St. Denis)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Morey St. Denis</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Morey St. Denis “Monts Luisants” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>

For more on Diana Snowden's views of the 2021 vintage please see either Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (The Sorting Table, [www.thesortingtable.com](http://www.thesortingtable.com), CA and Chambers & Chambers Wine Merchants, [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), CA, both USA; O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Berry Bros & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com) and Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Morey St. Denis:** (from Les Porroux). Pretty and airy aromas of citrus, pear and apple are complemented by racy, intense and nicely voluminous middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and citrus-inflected finale where a touch of wood slowly appears. This is delicious and refreshing though not especially complex. To enjoy young. (87-90)/2024+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières”:** (from Peux Bois and Folatières proper). A discreet application of wood sets off more elegant and slightly riper aromas of citrus confit, acacia blossom and white peach. The succulent, even opulent, yet agreeably punchy medium-bodied flavors possess both good richness and minerality on the clean and dry finish where a touch of oak also slowly emerges. This could also be enjoyed young but should repay a few years of keeping. (90-92)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a .60 ha parcel). Here the wood treatment is less subtle though it does not overshadow the more elegant and slightly cooler nose of spice, citrus and a broader array of floral elements. The wood though is definitely more prominent on the palate and it's not subtle on the equally opulent yet finer medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the balanced and lingering finale that displays slightly better depth. This is woodier than I personally prefer but stylistic quibbles aside, it's quite good. (90-93)/2027+

**2021 Morey St. Denis “Monts Luisants”:** Moderate reduction flattens the underlying fruit though there is good freshness on the palate of the middleweight flavors along with evident minerality that adds a sense of lift to the nicely dry and crisp finale. The mouthfeel is an exercise in contrasts as the mid-palate is relatively fine yet the finish is borderline rustic. (89-91)/2026+

### **Domaine Sylvain Dussort (Meursault)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Limozin”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>

Sylvain Dussort, who, with his wife, took over the estate in 1982 on the same property where his grandparents used to live. Now, with the help of his daughter Anne-Caroline, they direct this small 6 ha domaine, two-thirds of which is white. Over the years, the estate has expanded with the acquisition of new vineyards as well as the modernization and enlargement of the existing winery buildings. I tasted these samples in my home office in Burgundy in February 2023. (Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), NY, USA).

**2020 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A spicy, fresh and attractively layered nose freely displays notes of green apple and citrus rind. The delicious and solidly intense middleweight flavors possess good density on the lightly saline-suffused, clean and dry finale. This offers fine quality for the genre and while it could certainly be enjoyed young, it should also repay a few years of keeping if desired. 87/2025+

**2020 Meursault Vieilles Vignes:** A very Meursault nose is comprised by ripe notes of hazelnut, white orchard fruit and acacia blossom. There is a lovely texture to the notably rich medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality that adds a sense of lift to the delicious, complex and balanced finale that exhibits excellent length. This is a quality Meursault *villages* and worth checking out. 90/2027+

**2020 Meursault “Limozin”:** This is also aromatically ripe yet agreeably fresh with its pretty and spicier nose that is also comprised by white orchard fruit and acacia blossom. There is a slightly more refined mouthfeel though not quite the same concentration to the medium weight flavors that deliver solid depth and persistence on the ever-so-mildly warm finale. This too offers very fine quality for its level and is worth a look. 89/2027+



### Domaine Arnaud Ente (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Meursault	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault – Clos des Ambres	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Goutte d’Or” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➔ Meursault “Petits Charrons”	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault – La Sève du Clos	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts” 1er	white	(93-96)

Arnaud Ente, who directs this 4.5 ha domaine, told me that “the 2021 growing season was brutal and in a variety of respects. First of course there was the frost and the loss of potential volume but it had a more pernicious effect in that it fragilized the affected vines such that the disease pressure that followed a tropical summer that was warm and humid. In particular the oidium was terrible and it was absolutely necessary to treat exactly when necessary. If not, you paid a heavy price with an even further reduction in yields. As if any of this was already enough aggravation, it was extremely difficult to find pickers as certain of our government’s policies are making things problematic. Yields were, not surprisingly, awful as we brought in 60% less than in 2020, which is to say that on average we obtained 16 hl/ha. I would point out that this figure includes our Bourgogne, which was almost untouched. By contrast, the Champ Gain came in at only 7 hl/ha! The fruit was at least ripe and reasonably clean so there was some sorting required. Potential alcohols were actually better than I expected at between 12.5 to 13% so nothing was touched. In the end, I like the quality quite a bit but stylistically, I can’t think of an equivalent to 2021.” Ente, as is his wont, is extremely modest as he, along with his brother Benoît (see immediately below) has made some of the best wines of the vintage. There isn’t going to be much to go around but if you can find a few bottles, do not hesitate. I would add that the Sève du Clos is again brilliant for its level and the Referts, Goutte d’Or and Champ Gain all offer grand cru quality. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), both UK; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from a mix of vines in Meursault and Puligny between 15 and 30+ years of age). An attractively floral and green apple-suffused nose leads to beautifully detailed, racy and utterly delicious middleweight flavors that display fine length on the dry, clean and solidly persistent finish. This is **outstanding for its level**, indeed it delivers *villages*-level quality. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (a blend of 70% En l’Ormeau and 30% Casse Tête). Distinctly cool aromas include those of zest, just sliced apple and a floral top note. There is first-rate density to the intense, beautifully textured and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the compact, moderately austere and sneaky long finale. This is also excellent though note well that at least some patience will be necessary. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault – Clos des Ambres:** (from vines situated in the very best part of En l’Ormeau that average 50+ years of age). A strikingly pretty nose combines notes of mineral reduction and lemon-lime with those of green apple and a wide array of floral elements. The dense and gorgeously textured medium weight flavors brim with sappy dry extract that buffers the firm acid spine supporting the powerful, tightly wound and beautifully long finish. Impressive for its level. (90-92)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Petits Charrons”:** This possesses one of the most floral-suffused noses in the range with its aromas of the essence of green apple, just sliced citrus and crushed fennel. Once again there is excellent volume to the slightly more refined and more mineral-driven flavors that possess an equally gorgeous mouthfeel, all wrapped in a strikingly long and tightly coiled finale. This is also seriously good for its level. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault – La Sève du Clos:** (also from vines in En l’Ormeau pushing 100 years of age; it will be bottled exclusively in magnum in 2021). This is aromatically quite similar to the Petits Charrons save for being slightly riper. On the palate though there is even better density thanks to the abundance of mouthcoating sap yet there is excellent intensity to the powerful and palate staining flavors that culminate in a bone-dry, youthfully austere and superbly long built-to-age finale. Note that the suggested initial drinking window applies to the magnum format bottling. A **superb Meursault villages**. (91-94)/2036+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** Distinctly cool and pure if restrained aromas of white peach, citrus and spice that are also wonderfully floral in character. Once again the texture of the medium weight plus flavors is positively gorgeous while displaying a succulent yet powerful mid-palate, all wrapped in a superbly long, balanced and sappy if very tightly wound finale. This is also a wine of contrast as the mid-palate is quite rich yet the finish is linear and youthfully austere. Note that this beauty is also going to require at least moderate patience. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts”:** (from 40+ year old vines). Once again the nose is emphatically floral in character with its mix of spice, white orchard fruit and citrus confit. There is superb density and richness to the powerful but refined and generously proportioned bigger-bodied flavors that brim with sappy dry extract that which does an excellent job of buffering the firm acid backbone shaping the youthfully austere, hugely long, complex and balanced finale. This is **stunningly good** and easily delivers grand cru quality plus it should age gracefully for years if desired. (93-96)/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain”:** Here too there is a panoply of floral nuances that include rose petal, lilac, honeysuckle and acacia blossom that display additional notes of cool zest, spice and green apple. There is almost painful intensity to the less concentrated but even more mineral-driven flavors that conclude in a chiseled, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This is also a wine of contrasts as there is evident power yet the overall impression is one of refinement, even delicacy. In sum, this is superb. (93-95)/2031+

### **Domaine Benoît Ente (Puligny-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Aligoté – Antichtone</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Golden Jubilée</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet “Clos de la Truffière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières – En la Richard” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet – Nexé Flore</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>

Benoît Ente, who is the brother of Arnaud Ente (see above), half-jokingly, called 2021 “the huge year of aligoté because it’s fully 45% of my production!” His meaning was that the chardonnay was crushed so badly by the frost such that even though he doesn’t make much aligoté, it suddenly represented a disproportionate amount of the total production in 2021. He further noted that several of his wines will be bottled only in magnum and these include the Golden Jubilée, Chassagne, Folatières and the Puligny Nexé Flore. As to the wines, he observed that “I used zero new wood and I love the finesse of this vintage. There may not be much of it but what we did make is pretty special. In fact, I believe that the Clos de la Truffière is probably the best that I have ever made.” I couldn’t agree more as both he, and his brother Arnaud, made some of the best wines in the entire vintage, indeed every wine is recommended. While there are excellent wines up and down the range, the Clos de la Truffière and the En la Richard are genuinely stunning. Ente noted that he bottled his 2021s in February 2023. (DNS Wines, [www.dnswines.com](http://www.dnswines.com), San Francisco, CA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and Vins & Saveurs, both UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté – Antichtone:** Ripe and ultra-fresh aromas include those of apple, pear and various citrus nuances. There is a lovely mid-palate density to the vibrant, delicious and caressing but solidly punchy flavors that conclude in a clean, very dry, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. Lovely in the context of the genre and worth considering. 87/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (raised exclusively in glass). Equally cool and fresh aromas are comprised by notes of green apple, lemon zest and pretty acacia blossom wisps. There is a bit more volume as well as better mid-palate density to the attractively textured flavors that display unusually good length in the context of the appellation on the very dry but not really austere finale. Lovely and worth your interest plus it will age if desired. 88/2026+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Golden Jubilée:** (this will be bottled entirely in magnum and my suggested drinking window takes that into consideration). This is aromatically quite similar to the regular cuvée with the addition of subtle spice nuances. There is better volume still along with excellent punch to the medium-bodied flavors that also display excellent length, all wrapped in a long, firm and sneaky long finish. This is **quite simply terrific** and it’s rare to find a Bourgogne of his caliber. 89/2033+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from Les Houillères; this will also be bottled entirely in magnum and my suggested drinking window takes that into consideration). A completely different aromatically profile presents notes of petrol, rosemary oil, white orchard fruit and a very subtle hint of wood. The middleweight flavors are a combination of excellent density allied with borderline painful intense while maintaining an appealing sense of balance and harmony on the detailed, complex and lingering finish. Recommended though patience will be necessary in magnum format. 91/2036+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from Les Tremblots and Les Houillères). An elegant and decidedly floral-suffused nose reflects additional notes of spicy green apple and lemon zest nuances. There is excellent density to the delicious and unusually powerful medium weight flavors that deliver first-rate length on the chiseled, clean and very dry but not really austere finale. This stylish effort is also excellent for its level and very much recommended. 91/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet – Nexe Flore:** (from Les Levrons; raised exclusively in glass and will be bottled entirely in magnum). Like the straight Puligny, the pure, cool and equally elegant nose is decidedly floral-suffused while displaying even more spice and a hint of mineral reduction. There is even better mid-palate density to the almost painfully intense and impressively powerful flavors that are also unusually powerful, all wrapped in a chiseled, very dry and superbly long finish. One to **strongly consider** provided you have the patience to age it in magnum format. 92/2036+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos de la Truffière”:** (from a 1 ha parcel; from yields of only 15 hl/ha in 2021). Once again there is a plethora of floral elements serving as a pretty back drop to the aromas of just sliced citrus, star anise, jasmine tea and white peach. There is superb definition to the notably more mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a powerful, serious, linear and strikingly persistent finish. This is **stunningly good** with the development potential to match. This is old school Truffière that harkens back to the 1980s and 1990s vintages of Sauzet that were so amazing. 95/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières – En la Richard”:** (Ente noted that 40% of the must was vinified in glass rather than wood; this too will be bottled entirely in magnum). There is a vague suggestion of the exotic in the form of white peach on the cool and wonderfully stylish aromas of acacia blossom, lilac, rose petal, anise, Asian-style tea and mineral reduction. The middleweight flavors are borderline painfully intense while seemingly built on the base of stone as the mouthfeel is like rolling tiny rocks around the mouth, all wrapped in an explosively long, balanced and youthfully austere finale. The Clos de la Truffière is indeed stunningly good but the En la Richard goes is one better as blind, this could easily be mistaken for a scaled-down Chevalier that should age for years in magnum format. **Brilliant and absolutely don’t miss.** 96/2038+

### Domaine Faiveley (Nuits St. Georges)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Ladoix – Marne Blanche</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault-Blagny “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

For more general information about the 2021 vintage *chez* Faiveley, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound searchable database. Specifically, with respect to the whites, Jérôme Flous noted that “the frost really killed us, both in terms of reducing yields but also in rendering the vines more susceptible to the ravages of cryptogamic diseases and in particular, oidium. We protected our parcels of Bâtard and Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet and while that helped save some yield, they were also traumatized and were seemingly just as sensitive to attack as the other vines. Worse, there was a heavy storm on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September that engendered an attack of botrytis and thus we were left with a very difficult choice of favoring maturities or aromatic purity. In the end, it turned out to be some of each. During the *élevage*, we did some lees stirring to add a bit of flesh even though the yields were incredibly low. Stylistically, I would compare our 2021s to a denser 2014.” (Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY and Wilson Daniels, [www.wilsondaniels.com](http://www.wilsondaniels.com), CA, USA; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong; there are many sources in the UK, among them John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com) and Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk)).

**2021 Ladoix – Marne Blanche:** (the name, which means white marl, is a play on words as it’s a combination of the vineyards of Les Marnées and La Blancharde). A deft application of wood sets off very fresh and bright aromas of just sliced citrus and green apple. The delicious, racy and detailed middleweight flavors exude evident minerality on the moderately austere, lemony and bone-dry finale. This chiseled effort will need at least a few years of keeping to unwind. (88-90)/2026+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “1er”:** (from La Pièce sous le Bois and is a purchase of fruit). Pungent aromas of moderate wood and reduction mask the underlying fruit. More interesting are the delicious, concentrated and vibrant medium weight flavors that possess a touch of orange peel character while delivering solid length on the powerful, clean, dry and balanced finale. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should be helpful. (89-92)/2026+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** Here too moderate wood is present on the aromas of honeysuckle, lemon confit and a vague hint of the exotic. The rich, dense and larger-bodied flavors possess a highly seductive mouthfeel that contrasts noticeably with the youthfully austere and intensely citrus-inflected finish that is presently a bit short. I suspect that once this is bottled that it will better harmonize as it’s somewhat awkward today. (90-93)/2027+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from Puligny fruit). Generous if not dominant wood fights a bit with the similarly exotic aromas of lemon confit, tangerine rind, white peach and apricot scents along with a floral top note. The sleek, vibrant and tautly muscular broad-shouldered flavors are not quite as concentrated though they do possess a highly attractive texture as well as better depth and persistence. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from two parcels that total .866 ha in Le Rognet and Le Corton). Like the Bâtard, generous wood also fights somewhat with the cooler and airier aromas of green apple, pear and a variety of citrus and floral elements. The intense, sleeker and more mineral-inflected flavors don't possess quite the same richness or power yet flash even better detail on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and clean finish that is shaped by lemon-tinged acidity on the impressively long, complex and compact finish where the wood telegraphed by the nose slowly reappears. Lovely. (92-94)/2031+

### **Domaine Henri Felettig (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Les Vallerots"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound searchable database for Gilbert Felettig's view on the 2021 growing season. (Satyr Picks Imported by George Wines, [www.satyrpicks.com](http://www.satyrpicks.com), NY; Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR and Woodland Hills Wine Co., [www.whwc.com](http://www.whwc.com), CA, all USA; The Burgundy Portfolio, [www.burgundyportfolio.com](http://www.burgundyportfolio.com), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk) and Claret-E Ltd., [www.claret-e.com](http://www.claret-e.com), all UK; Souveraine Ltd, <http://www.souverainewine.com>, Hong Kong/Macau, Mui Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China; Mottox Japan, [www.mottox.co.jp](http://www.mottox.co.jp), Japan; Grand Millésime Australia, [www.grandmillesime.com.au](http://www.grandmillesime.com.au), Australia and Crystal Wine Collection, South Korea, [www.crystalwines.com](http://www.crystalwines.com)).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** (from yields of only 15 hl/ha in 2021). An exuberantly spicy nose of just sliced citrus and green apple precedes exceptionally rich, even opulent, middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean and dry-in-the-best sense finish. This mildly austere effort is an excellent example of the genre and worth checking out. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Les Vallerots":** An appealingly fresh nose combines notes of lemon-lime, light oak and a similar hint of green apple. There is again excellent energy to the less concentrated if finer and more obviously mineral-driven flavors that also conclude in a very dry and focused finish that isn't quite as complex. Lovely for what this is and a wine that should be approachable young. (86-89)/2024+

### **Domaine Jean-Philippe Fichet (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Auxey-Duresses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Les Chevalières"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Les Gruyaches"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Meix Sous le Château"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Les Tessons"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Monthélie</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Rully</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>

The ever-modest Jean-Philippe Fichet is now happily ensconced in his new cuverie as the old one was destroyed by a devastating fire (for those who might be interested in the details, please see either Issue 87 or the Burghound database). As to the 2021 vintage, Fichet said "I basically couldn't be happier with the wines as they're exactly the style that I love to make even if it's becoming harder and harder to make it with climate change. With that said, I'm not very happy with the yields as they were low without being catastrophically so. We picked from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of September and yields ranged from a low of 15 hl/ha to a high of 45 hl/ha, though most wines came in between 20 and 25 hl/ha. Potential alcohols were excellent, at least in the context of the style I want to make, which is to say from 12.5 to 13.5%. While I had no trouble with the primary

fermentations, the malos were exceptionally long and it took quite a while to see the true character of the wines emerge. But now that it has, I am exceptionally enthusiastic about them, not only in terms of the quality but as I mentioned, also the style. They are wines of tension that should age gracefully for years. They remind me of denser versions of either 2014 or 2017." I would add that Fichet has crafted some exceptionally good wines and has done so across the board. These are wines to buy and cellar plus they tend to offer excellent value in most markets. (The Rare Wine Company, [www.rarewineco.com](http://www.rarewineco.com), CA, is the primary importer and distributes to Cream Wine Company, [www.creamwine.com](http://www.creamwine.com), IL and Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Genesis Wines, [www.genesiswines.com](http://www.genesiswines.com) and Vine Trail, [www.vinetrail.co.uk](http://www.vinetrail.co.uk), all UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), both Hong Kong; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** (a *négociant* wine). A classic aligoté nose features notes of citrus, green apple and spice. The racy, well-detailed and stony middleweight flavors deliver better than average depth and length on the very dry and youthfully austere finish. If you like aligoté, this is a fine example. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from Meursault vines planted in high clay content soil). Firm reduction masks the nuances of the white orchard fruit and soft floral scents. Here too there is a lovely sense of vibrancy to the nicely detailed yet rich and voluminous flavors that also conclude in a dry, sneaky long and slightly firmer finale. Also worth a look. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes:** (also from Meursault vines but from soil with more gravel and rock content). The extended malo shows as the nose is quite lactic in character and presently dominates the fruit. More interesting are the slightly denser medium weight flavors that are firmer still. This too should be very good for its level. (86-89)/2026+

**2021 Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Beaune:** This is also firmly reduced and in this case, revealing nothing. By contrast, there is very good freshness to the sleek, intense and utterly delicious flavors that possess both a lovely texture and evident minerality on the chiseled finale. This is excellent where the mouthfeel is like rolling rocks around the mouth. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Rully:** (a *négociant* wine). Pretty aromas include those of white orchard fruit, crushed anise and a floral top note. The mouthfeel of the slightly bigger and richer flavors is also sleek and detailed while displaying a bit better persistence on the dry, clean and balanced finale that is firm enough to repay 5-ish or so years of keeping. (87-90)/2027+

**2021 Monthélie:** (from Sous le Cellier). A cooler nose is comprised by notes of acacia blossom, white peach and zest. Once again there is very good volume to the delicious, plump and round yet punchy middleweight flavors that conclude in a long and attractively dry if vaguely rustic finale. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses:** (from the *lieux-dits* Nampoillon and Les Closeaux). This is aromatically cooler still with its array of apple, pear, lemon-lime and iodine hints. The succulent but notably more intense medium weight flavors also flash evident minerality on the youthfully austere finale that also exhibits a touch of austere on the more complex finale. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault:** (from 7 different *lieux-dits*). Reduction masks the fruit at present though there is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the slightly bigger and richer medium-bodied flavors that possess a more sophisticated texture while also delivering fine length on the stony bitter lemon-inflected finale that is noticeably more tightly wound. Lovely. (89-91)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Meix Sous le Château”:** This is also sufficiently reduced to be impossible to properly read. The finer but not denser middleweight flavors possess a generous mouthfeel along with a certain reserve that becomes more apparent on the sneaky long, balanced and notably dry finale. This could use better depth but more should almost certainly develop if allowed a few years of cellaring first. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Gruyaches”:** (from vines planted in 1918 that directly abut Charmes and are the domaine's oldest). This is also moderately reduced and revealing little on the nose. On the palate however there is a heightened sense of energy with a really lovely texture that is more in the camp of finesse and refinement than power, all wrapped in a balanced, beautifully long and understated finale. This is a terrific Meursault *villages* and very much worth your interest. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Les Chevalières”:** (from extremely stony ground with very little topsoil). Once again the nose is sufficiently reduced to hide its fruit. As is virtually always the case, the lilting middleweight flavors also exceptionally refined but with markedly more minerality and a bit more punch if perhaps not quite the same depth, at least not yet, on the very firm, balanced, bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. This is also excellent for its level and consistently one of Fichet's best *villages*. (90-92)/2031+



**2021 Meursault “Les Tessonns”:** Cool, pretty and airy aromas are comprised by notes of acacia blossom, essence of pear, mineral reduction and a vague suggestion of exotic tea. There is a bit more volume and richness to the generously proportioned and gorgeously textured flavors that are a beguiling combination of power and refinement as the intensity really builds from the mid-palate to the wonderfully long, lemony and impeccably well-balanced finale. This easily delivers premier cru quality and is **highly recommended**. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts”:** An overtly floral-suffused nose displays nuances of acacia, lilac and rose petal along with touch of pear, citrus and fennel. Here too the medium-bodied flavors possess a gorgeous mouthfeel that is at once generous but punchy while retaining the innate class of a fine Puligny on the youthfully austere, balanced and citrusy finish that goes on and on. This is **seriously good** and highly recommended as well. (92-94)/2033+

#### Domaine Follin-Arbelet (Aloxe-Corton)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Aloxe-Corton</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “En Caradeux” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>

Please see Issue 90, or the searchable Burghound database, to have Franck Follin's take on the 2021 vintage. Specifically regarding the whites, he noted that the malos were extremely long and as a result, they were very difficult to assess during the *élevage*. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, USA; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), UK; Le Maître de Chai, [www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca](http://www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca), Canada).

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (from the *villages* portion of En Caradeux). Hints of menthol and herbal tea add breadth to the nose of green apple and citrus elements. There is both good detail and underlying tension on the middleweight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the bitter lemon-inflected, dry and nicely long finale. This could use better depth but it's already very pretty and is worth considering for its level. 89/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “En Caradeux”:** (because of the very late malo, this had not yet been fined). Slightly riper aromas include those of lemon confit, pear, apple and a floral top note. The richer and more voluminous flavors offer solid concentration and focused power while delivering good depth and persistence on the youthfully austere, balanced and bitter citrus rind tinged finish. I suspect that the fining should help to make this even more precise. (90-92)/2027+

**2021 Aloxe-Corton:** (from Boulmeau). Touches of petrol, spice and zest can be found on the nose of mostly just sliced apple. There is even better volume and richness if not the same refinement to the punchy and powerful medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a lingering and moderately rustic finale. This generous effort should drink well early if desired. (87-90)/2025+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a .50 ha parcel in Le Charlemagne). A cool, pure, airy and very pretty nose offers up its mix of green apple, mineral reduction, fresh citrus and a Chablis-like hint of iodine. There is a highly seductive texture to the powerful, stony and focused medium weight plus flavors that terminate in a compact and very dry but not especially austere finale. While this should repay extended keeping, it should also be approachable after 5-ish or so years. (91-93)/2031+

#### Domaine Fontaine-Gagnard (Chassagne-Montrachet)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Boudriotte” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean – Clos des Murées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vergers” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Le Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

The always candid Céline Fontaine-Gagnard described the 2021 growing season as one that was “particularly complicated, especially for the reds even though the whites were harder hit by the early April frost. We had somewhat less frost damage than we did in 2016 though the only reason is that we protected some of our vines with warming candles. This was followed by a very difficult growing season as the disease pressure was both intense and relentless. Toward the end of the season the botrytis wasn’t especially heavy, but it was everywhere, so I was constantly panicked! We picked from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of September though this was interrupted by a heavy rain on the 20<sup>th</sup> which prevented us from doing much of anything. There was a lot of sorting and particularly so for the pinot. The whites didn’t need much sorting but just to be sure, we did do a very thorough lees settling process as it’s obviously critical to be working with clean lees. Yields were highly variable, especially in chardonnay, with potential alcohols that came in between 12 and 12.8% in both colors. In a perfect world, I would have picked the pinot 2 to 3 days later than we did but the skins were fragile and degrading so in the end, expediency won out as I couldn’t afford to lose more crop as we were already down substantially. Now that the wines are in bottle, the reds are quite drinkable already though the whites are clearly going to need at least some bottle aging.” Fontaine noted that the whites were bottled in August 2022. (Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY, Los Angeles Wine Company, [www.lawineco.com](http://www.lawineco.com), CA, all USA; Diva Beaune S.A.S., [www.divawine.com](http://www.divawine.com), Beaune, France; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Decorum Vintners, [www.decvin.com](http://www.decvin.com), Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk) and Majestic Wine Warehouses, [www.majestic.co.uk](http://www.majestic.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne:** Moderate reduction dominates the nose though there is good freshness and verve to the attractively textured and acceptably dense flavors that conclude in a mildly rustic and austere finale that offers just enough depth and persistence to be interesting. 86/2024+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** Notes of petrol, rosemary oil, lemon-lime and white orchard fruit are complemented by moderately dense middleweight flavors that possess good underlying tension while delivering better complexity and length on the balanced finale. Note that while this should repay mid-term keeping, it should also drink well young. 88/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie”:** (from Ez Crets). This is aromatically quite similar to the Chassagne villages with just slightly better freshness. There is again good verve to the moderately dense medium weight flavors that offer good length on the clean and very dry but not especially austere finale. This could use better depth so a few years of keeping should be helpful in this regard. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean”:** (from Les Rebichets). Firm reduction so a thorough aeration would be a good idea. The supple and relatively fine flavors exude a cool bead of minerality that adds a sense of lift to the clean, dry, lingering and slightly more complex finale. I like the balance, and this should be approachable after only 3 to 4 years. 90/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean – Clos des Murées”:** (a .33 monopole of the Domaine). This is also sufficiently reduced to mask the nuances of the underlying fruit. On the palate the medium weight flavors are energetic and detailed if almost delicate with sneaky good length on the youthfully austere and moderately compact finale. This too could use better depth but I very much like the understated style. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vergers”:** (from Vergers proper). A plethora of citrus elements are present on the noser of green apple, pear and a floral top note. The succulent yet exceptionally punchy, even crunchy, medium-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density while delivering excellent persistence on the compact and tightly coiled finale. Once again, more depth would be beneficial but this clearly has the necessary stuffing to permit mid- to even longer-term keeping. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from La Grande Borne). Prominent petrol and resin scents are present on the cool and airy aromas of mostly pear and lemon rind. The succulent and solidly rich medium weight flavors are at once sleek and tautly muscular while exhibiting fine length on the citrusy, dry and youthfully austere finale that could also use a bit more depth. I would advise allowing this to age for at least a few years first. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Boudriotte”:** (from Fairendes). Smoky aromas of just sliced pear and apple are nuanced by hint of lemon and tangerine zest. The moderately rich and exceptionally intense middleweight flavors conclude in a bone-dry, youthfully austere and ever-so-slightly edgy finish. I attribute the edginess to the noticeable gas so I would suggest decanting this for a few minutes first. 90/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from Les Vignes Derrière). Cooler aromas include those of lemon-lime, green apple and an array of spice wisps. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the clean, moderately dry and sneaky long finale. This too could use better depth but this is presently so tightly wound that more will almost certainly progressively develop. 92/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée”:** A slightly riper and faintly exotic nose combines notes of citrus confit, white peach, Asian-style tea and notes of green apple. The rich, concentrated and powerful larger-bodied flavors possess excellent depth and persistence on the compact and built-to-age finish that is borderline tannic. This is almost always the best 1er in the Fontaine range and so it is again in 2021. 93/2031+

**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 3 separate parcels of vines that are now 100 years of age that aggregate .33 ha). Here too there is a faint suggestion of the exotic on the nose of essence of pear, apple, fennel and discreet oak. The relatively broad-shouldered flavors possess a gorgeous mid-palate texture that contrasts moderately with the almost chewy, serious, powerful and explosively long finish. This is impressive and should age accordingly. I would add that chez Fontaine, the Criots is rarely at the level of the Bâtard, let alone the Montrachet, but in 2021 it very much appears to be so. 94/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .30 ha parcel in Chassagne). A cooler nose reflects notes of petrol, apple, acacia blossom and anise. Here too the medium weight plus flavors possess a lovely mid-palate texture thanks to the abundance of dry extract that also serves to buffer the overtly austere, powerful, focused and balanced finish. This is very much built-to-age, in fact, it's a 'buy and forget you own it' wine. 94/2033+

**2021 Le Montrachet:** (from .08 ha of vines on the Chassagne side). This is aromatically similar to the Bâtard with the addition of a touch of mineral reduction. The succulent and sleek middleweight flavors are delicious, intense and well-detailed but not especially dense before culminating in a bone-dry, lemon and linear finale that isn't skinny but it's presently a bit lean. Montrachet typically fleshes out substantially with bottle age and this should do that as well but it's not clear that there is necessarily better potential here compared to either the Criots or the Bâtard. 93/2033+

### **Domaine Jean Fournier (Marsannay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté Cuvée St. Urbain</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(85-87)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté “Aux Boutières Vieilles Vignes”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté “Champ Forey Vieilles Vignes”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Cuvée Origines</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay “Clos du Roy”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay Cuvée St. Urbain</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay “Longeroies”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound searchable database to have Laurent Fournier's views of the 2021 vintage. (No importers provided).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Cuvée St. Urbain:** A very spicy nose features notes of green apple and lemon-lime where the latter can also be discerned on the palate of the middleweight flavors that possess excellent punch that carries over to the almost aggressively dry, austere and slightly lean finale. (85-87)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Champ Forey Vieilles Vignes”:** A strikingly fresh, airy and equally spicy nose features aromas of just sliced apple, anise and lemon rind. The racy and even denser medium weight flavors also possess both fine punch and a lovely texture while delivering fine length on the better-balanced finale. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Aux Boutières Vieilles Vignes”:** Moderate reduction presently renders the nose unreadable. Once again there is fine density and richness to the vibrant flavors that manage to retain good delineation on the lightly stony, very dry and austere finale that is supported by citrus-tinged acidity. In contrast to the prior two wines, this is borderline tannic and mildly rustic. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Cuvée Origines:** (from a mix of 2/3 pinot blanc and 1/3 pinot beurot). Notes of petrol, the exotic and ripe white orchard fruit, especially white peach, lead to almost painfully intense flavors that possess an attractive mouthfeel as well as a nicely dry and clean if not especially complex finale. Still, this is better than average and worth a look. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay Cuvée St. Urbain:** (this also has an interesting mix of grape varieties with 70% chardonnay, 20% chardonnay rosé and 10% pinot blanc). An overtly exotic nose displays notes of white and yellow peach, dried apricot and a whiff of lychee. There is good cut and punch to the delicious flavors that offer reasonable depth and persistence on the medium dry and mildly rustic finale. To enjoy young. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay “Clos du Roy”:** Subtle but still easily perceptible wood sets off the ripe and fresh aromas of lemon rind, petrol and apple. The wood can also be found on the delicious, intense and well-detailed flavors that are markedly stony, all wrapped in bone-dry and decidedly austere but not lean finale that could use better depth. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Marsannay “Longeroies”:** This is quite similar aromatically to the Clos du Roy. There is equally good minerality to the racy and chiseled medium weight flavors that possess a slightly finer texture on the not quite as dry finale that would also benefit from having better depth. (88-91)/2025+

### **Domaine Fourrier (Gevrey-Chambertin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne – Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to find Jean-Marie Fourrier's views on the 2021 vintage. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; there are many sources in the UK including A&B Vintners, [www.abvintners.co.uk](http://www.abvintners.co.uk), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Uncorked Ltd, [www.uncorked.co.uk](http://www.uncorked.co.uk), and Seckford Wines, [www.seckfordwines.co.uk](http://www.seckfordwines.co.uk), all UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Bourgogne:** An agreeably fresh nose offers up its aromas of pear, apple and citrus. The round, plump and delicious middleweight flavors possess reasonable depth and persistence on the clean and moderately dry finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. (86-88)/now+

### **Domaine Jean-Noël Gagnard (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumes”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos de la Maltroye” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Petits Clos” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

Caroline L'Estimée succinctly reported that 2021 was “basically difficult from start to finish. We got killed by the frost and the disease pressure thereafter was equally difficult to manage as the frosted vines were especially susceptible, try as we did to protect them. I chose to pick beginning on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and we were able to pick quickly as there was essentially not much fruit to bring in. We were down 70% overall and in the Hautes Côtes, which is normally productive, we brought in only 6 hl/ha. Potential alcohols were good but not high at between 11.5 and 12.5%. As to the wines, they have frankly turned out much better than I thought. The whites are concentrated but with bright acidities and I quite like them but I confess that before the bottling, I wasn't particularly proud of them. I've been doing this a long time and it just shows that you just never know.” I agree with L'Estimée that she has made some excellent whites up and down her range so they are definitely wines to consider. Note that the Caillerets, Boirettes, Chenevottes and Sous Eguisons were not presented. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; The Source Imports, [www.thesourceimports.com](http://www.thesourceimports.com), CA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, The Harvest Wine Company, LLC, [nate@harvestwineco.com](mailto:nate@harvestwineco.com), CO, Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK; FWines Co Ltd, [www.fwines.co.jp](http://www.fwines.co.jp), Japan).

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumes”:** Aromas of petrol, rosemary oil and white orchard fruit give way to delicious medium-bodied flavors that possess a lovely texture while exhibiting fine length and already offers unusually good depth for a young *villages* Chassagne. This is lovely for what it is and recommended. 90/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chaumées”:** The malo was slow to finish and the nose confirms that as it is presently dominated by wood and lactic notes. On the palate though there is both good freshness and ver to the beautifully concentrated medium weight flavors that flash plenty of sappy dry extract as well as focused power on the lemony finish that is shaped by bright acidity. This will need a few years, but it is very promising and well-worth considering. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos de la Maltroye”:** Here too there is a whiff of wood treatment in evidence on the nose of white peach, citrus confit and crushed fennel. The middleweight flavors are not quite as concentrated but they’re finer with both a lovely texture and excellent punch that carries over to the clean, dry and balanced finale. This could use better depth but there should be no trouble developing more if it’s held for a few years first. 92/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains”:** A pungent nose of reduction and wood toast definitely needs a thorough aeration if you’re tempted to try a bottle young. The refined and vibrant medium weight flavors possess good detail and a subtle bead of minerality that becomes more apparent on the long, attractively dry and compact finale. Like the Clos de la Maltroye, a few years of cellaring should prove beneficial to develop better depth. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Petits Clos”:** This is also reduced although not the same degree; even so, a few minutes of air should help. More interesting are the almost painfully intense, bold and powerful larger-scaled flavors that are at once generously proportioned but also delineated, all wrapped in a dry-in-the-best-sense and hugely long finish that is very definitely built-to-age. This is potentially terrific, but patience strongly recommended. 93/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus”:** Bright and fresh aromas include those of white peach, lemon confit, floral and mineral reduction nuances. The super-sleek and muscular middleweight plus flavors are powerful if not quite as dense while possessing a beguiling, even classy, texture as well as ample minerality that adds a sense of lift to the moderately dry but not really austere finale. This is also potentially excellent. 93/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .3 ha parcel of 35+ year old vines on the Chassagne side). Prominent petrol aromas are present on the ripe and vaguely exotic nose of white and yellow peach, spice and pretty acacia blossom nuances. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the moderately dense flavors that also flash focused power before culminating in a compact, serious and built-to-age finale. This is a class Gagnard Bâtard of class and grace that should deliver a decade plus of development. 94/2031+

#### **Domaine Henri Germain et Fils (Meursault)**

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d’Or	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Les Fairendes” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Meursault “Chevalières”	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Limozin”	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➔ Meursault “Poruzots” 1er	white	(92-94)

As did so many of his colleagues, Jean-François Germain called the 2021 growing season “complicated. We began with a devastating frost and then tossed in sporadic attacks of mildew, oidium and botrytis. I chose to wait a few days longer than many to begin the harvest as I just didn’t feel we had the last little bit of necessary maturity. This was possible because the last two weeks of the season were clement so maturities were gradually climbing. I finally chose to say ‘go’ on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September and while the pinot needed some sorting, the chardonnay was really quite clean. Yields were down fully 60% with potential alcohols that averaged right at 12.5% though the Poruzots came in at 13.3%. The acidities were excellent as the post-malo pHs were between 3.1 and 3.2 so the whites don’t lack for backbone. As to the wines, I love the style as this is exactly what I want to make, which are balanced and ageworthy wines where the underlying terroir is clear.” I have long been an enthusiastic fan of the domaine, not only in terms of the intrinsic quality of the wines but also how pure they are, and 2021 only adds to that legacy. Be sure to look closely at the lower level wines as well as they box well above their weight. (Success Wines, NJ, Milton Road Trading Corp, LLC, [www.miltonroadtrading.com](http://www.miltonroadtrading.com), CA, both USA; Adnams, [www.adnams.co.uk](http://www.adnams.co.uk), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), Emile Wines Ltd., [www.emilewines.co.uk](http://www.emilewines.co.uk), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), all UK; Mui Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Bright aromas of lemon rind and green apple are complemented by vibrant and delicious flavors that possess both good detail and a subtle bead of minerality on the clean, dry and impressively long finale. If you enjoy aligoté, this will make a fine choice. (87-89)/2025+



**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** (from vines in Meursault). Moderate reduction overshadows the fruit though there is slightly better concentration to the plump but punchy and well-detailed middleweight flavors that deliver fine length on the balanced and moderately austere finale. This could use better depth but given that this is a Bourgogne with aging potential, that should reasonably occur if given a chance. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** (from 6 *lieux-dits*, including Vireuils, Peutes Vignes, Moulin à Judas, Clos du Cromin, Dressoles and Les Pellans). This is also reduced though not so much that wisps of citrus can't be discerned and they are also reflected by the sleek and borderline painfully intense flavors that possess evident mid-palate density as well as excellent balance on the moderately austere, firm and serious finale. This is an impressive built-to-age old school Meursault. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Chevalières":** Pungent aromas of firm reduction and wood completely mask the fruit today. Here too there is excellent punch to the almost delicate middleweight flavors that are almost aggressively mineral-driven while delivering superb length on the chiseled finale. This is a fine Meursault *villages* and textbook Chevalières. (90-92)/2031+

**2021 Meursault "Limozin":** (from 80+ year old vines below Genevrières). A slightly riper nose reflects notes of white peach, acacia blossom, lemon peel and a deft application of wood. There is both more volume and richness to the seductively textured and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that flash fine power on the compact, balanced and youthfully austere finale. Limozin is always more interesting in cooler vintages, and this is also an **excellent Meursault villages** that is absolutely worth your interest. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot – Les Fairendes":** This is even more floral-suffused with its combination of essence of pear, rosemary oil and a hint of orange peel. The larger-scaled flavors possess a completely different mouthfeel as it is robust, muscular and bold while displaying impressive power on the sappy and impressively long finish that flirts with rusticity but doesn't quite cross over. A quality Morgeot that should amply repay extended keeping. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault "Poruzots":** (from a .25 ha parcel). Notes of green fruit, petrol and a plethora of citrus elements introduce dense and equally powerful if slightly finer medium weight plus flavors that are at once seductive but very punchy while exhibiting superb persistence on the lightly stony and impeccably well-balanced finale. This is a seriously good Poruzots that should also amply repay extended keeping. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Meursault "Charmes":** A background touch of reduction is just enough to blur the nuances of the floral and citrus-suffused nose. Otherwise, there is more refined if less power to the beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors that deliver outstanding length on the balanced and highly complex finale. This is a **strikingly good Charmes**. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Meursault "Perrières":** (from a .12 ha parcel that produced only 1 barrel in 2021). As is often the case, this possesses the prettiest nose in the range with its intensely floral nose of rose petal, acacia blossom, spice and cool sliced green apple. The super-sleek and almost painfully intense medium weight flavors possess a highly sophisticated mouthfeel as well as an abundance of minerality that seems to build in prominence on the powerful, focused, chiseled and superbly persistent finale. This is a **'wow' wine and highly recommended**. (93-95)/2033+

#### **Domaine Jean-Jacques Girard (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay "Combe d'Orange"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pernand-Vergelesses "Les Belles Filles"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses "Sous Frétille" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database to have Jean-Jacques Girard's take on the 2021 vintage. Girard noted that the 2021 whites were bottled in August 2022 using the Diam brand of composite cork except for the Corton-Charlemagne, which is bottled with natural cork that is guaranteed to be TCA-free. (Scott Levy Selections, 770.730.0361, GA, Vintage Trading, e-mail [vintagetrading@aol.com](mailto:vintagetrading@aol.com), NY and Bayfield Imports, [www.bayfieldimporting.com](http://www.bayfieldimporting.com), NY, all USA; Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com), UK; Vignoble & Millésime, [vignoble.millesime@wanadoo.fr](mailto:vignoble.millesime@wanadoo.fr), Beaune France).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay "Combe d'Orange":** (a monopole of the domaine). Smoky aromas of white orchard fruit, zest and a hint of mineral reduction lead to racy, bright and intense flavors that deliver good persistence on the bitter lemon and lightly austere finale. To enjoy young for its crunchy fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Les Belles Filles”:** A background touch of post-bottling reduction masks the nuance of the citrusy green apple scents. There is excellent detail and intensity to the overtly mineral-inflected middleweight flavors that possess notably better depth and persistence on the clean, dry and youthfully austere finale. This is a very good Pernand villages and worth a look. 89/2026+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune:** (mostly chardonnay though there is roughly 10% pinot beurot; from Les Godeaux and Vermots). Here too there is a smoky element to the more floral-suffused aromas of lemon-lime, pear and exotic tea. The succulent, round and delicious medium weight flavors possess good punch on the dry bitter citrus rind-inflected finale. This could use better depth so 2 to 3 years of keeping should be helpful. 88/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille”:** Here the restrained nose only grudgingly displays notes of petrol, white flowers and discreet wood. By contrast there is plenty of energy to the bright and delicious medium weight flavors that possess both good richness and delineation while delivering fine length on the moderately complex and markedly stony finale. Note that my score offers the benefit of the doubt that more depth is in the offing with a few years of bottle age. 90/2026+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** This is quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing at present so if you're going to open a bottle young in the name of science, I would strongly advise giving this a very thorough aeration. There is excellent volume to concentrated and tautly muscular middleweight plus flavors that flash an almost pungent minerality on the citrusy, bone-dry and built-to-age finish that is both very compact and built-to-age. This is very backward and a wine that I would describe as a 'buy and forget you own it wine' for at least 5 years. 93/2031+

### Domaine Vincent Girardin (Meursault)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(91-93)
2021	Bienvenue-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(91-94)
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(90-93)
2021	Meursault-Blagny “1er” 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➤ Meursault “Casse Têtes”	white	(89-92)
2021	➤ Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus” 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➤ Meursault “Les Genevrières” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Meursault “Les Narvaux”	white	(88-90)
2021	➤ Meursault “Les Perrières” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Meursault “Les Tillets”	white	(88-91)
2021	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(93-96)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet “Les Champs Gain” 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er	white	(91-94)

Winemaker Eric Germain (who is the brother of Jean-François Germain of Domaine Henri Germain – see above), directs this 32-ha operation that now controls, either by lease or direct ownership, some very prestigious vineyards. Germain commented that “our battle against the frost was actually pretty successful as we lit the warming candles before the snow fell and had adequate supplies to light a second batch. The bad news is that there just isn't any way to protect all our vineyards as we're simply too big for that. But I will certainly take what we were able to save. We then were confronted with a series of cryptogamic diseases that also had us constantly on edge. We began picking with the pinot and harvested from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September and the sorting was genuinely monstrous; in fact for the first time in several vintages we employed our optical sorter. Despite our success in protecting some of our vineyards, total yields for the entire domaine were still off some 70% and I shudder to think what they would have been without the protection. Potential alcohols came in between 12.5 and 12.8% and we touched up nothing, no sugar, no acidity, no anything! I vinified using from zero to 100% whole clusters over a 14-to-18-day cuvaion. I will say though I used more whole clusters for the two Côte de Nuits grand crus compared to the Côte de Beaune wines as the fruit was slightly riper. As to the wines, I'm happy with them and especially so under the circumstances as the 2021 growing season which was the toughest we have faced in a long time.” Germain noted that many of the whites were still on their fining materials and that always makes judging whites more challenging. As such, try as I might to adjust my impressions, it's worth pointing out that this group will merit even better scores. He further noted that because of the reduced quantities, there will be no Corton-Charlemagne Quintessence. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Berkman Wine Cellars, [www.berkman.co.uk](http://www.berkman.co.uk), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), both UK; Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.sequinrobillard.ca](http://www.sequinrobillard.ca) and LCBO, [www.lcbo.com](http://www.lcbo.com), both Canada; Kerry Wines, [www.kerrywines.com](http://www.kerrywines.com), Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), both Hong Kong, Ruby Red Fine Wine, [www.rubyred.com.cn](http://www.rubyred.com.cn), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Meursault “Les Tillets”:** Ultra-cool, pure and airy aromas include those of white flower, citrus and apple. There is both good volume and excellent delineation to the stony middleweight flavors that possess the innately sophisticated texture of a fine Tillets, all wrapped in a bone-dry, lemony and youthfully austere finale. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Casse Têtes”:** Ultra-fresh and equally cool aromas of the pure essence of green apple and just sliced lemon are trimmed in smoky mineral reduction nuances. There is a bit more volume to the agreeably textured, stony and more powerful flavors that also conclude in a moderately austere, bone-dry and citrusy finish that offers better depth. Lovely and worth checking out. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Les Narvaux”:** (from Narvaux-Dessous, Chaumes des Narvaux and Gorges de Narvaux; only 5 barrels produced in 2021 compared to 35 normally!). A slightly riper and more floral nose is otherwise compositionally similar. There is an appealing sense of underlying tension to the punchy and even more mineral-driven flavors that offer fine length if only average depth, at least presently. (88-90)/2027+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “1er”:** (from La Pièce Sous le Bois). Soft reduction doesn't completely mask the notes of citrus, white and yellow peach, and honeysuckle. There is a finer mouthfeel to the utterly delicious and caressing, even seductive, medium-bodied flavors that possess good mid-palate volume while delivering slightly better depth on the moderately dry and stony finale. Note that this should be reasonably accessible young if desired. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus”:** A very Meursault nose combines notes of hazelnut and acacia blossom with those of citrus peel and white orchard fruit, all of which is trimmed in enough wood to notice. There is an excellent sense of underlying tension to the utterly delicious medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the citrusy, sneaky long and youthfully austere finish. This is sufficiently firm to repay up to a decade of keeping. In a word, lovely. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Genevrières”:** An attractive touch of mineral reduction adds breadth to the highly complex aromas of citrus peel, lavender and spiced exotic tea to shine. There is more evident minerality present on the succulent, mouthcoating medium-bodied flavors that also possess an attractive sense of underlying tension, all wrapped in a driving and strikingly lengthy, markedly dry and mildly austere finish. This is both very stylish and very classy. Excellent. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Perrières”:** A pungent nose combines notes of petrol, mineral reduction and a hint of wood toast with those of citrus, lavender and an interesting hint of jasmine tea. There is excellent concentration to the highly energetic medium weight flavors that flash a borderline aggressive on the youthfully austere and strikingly long finish. This stylish effort could use better depth but there is sufficient development potential that more should develop in time. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Champs Gain”:** (from vines on the Truffière side). A more floral-suffused nose freely reveals its notes of spicy white orchard fruit. The sleek, delicious and nicely detailed if not especially dense middleweight flavors exude a bracing minerality on the citrusy finish that could also use better depth. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** A deft application of wood sets off the even more floral-suffused aromas of pear, apple, anise, exotic tea and a hint of orange peel. There is both excellent richness and vibrancy to the highly seductive and sophisticated medium weight flavors that flash the natural elegance of a topflight Puligny. Excellent. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from Fairendes). A softly wooded nose is comprised by a slightly riper mix of white and yellow orchard fruit aromas that are trimmed in discreet petrol nuances. There is both fine volume and intensity to the bigger, richer and more powerful though less refined medium weight plus flavors that conclude in a citrusy finish that stops somewhat abruptly. My predicted range offers the benefit of the doubt that this will better harmonize in time. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot Dessus”:** An agreeably fresh array freely offers up notes of petrol, white peach, floral and discreet oak toast wisps. There is outstanding volume, intensity and concentration to the medium weight plus flavors that display focused power on the citrus-inflected finish that delivers excellent depth and length. This is potentially outstanding though note that it is definitely built-to-age and a wine that's going to need at least some patience. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from all 3 communes). Here too there is just enough wood to merit pointing out on the nose of prominent petrol, green apple and crushed fennel scents. There is almost painful intensity to the delicious if only moderately dense flavors that display overt minerality on the delineated and attractively dry finale that delivers very good persistence. Like several wines in the range, this could use better depth but it's built-to-age and more should develop in time. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Bienvenue-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (only ½ barrel made in 2021). Pretty notes of honeysuckle and acacia add elegance to the aromas of petrol, white orchard and subtle wood nuances. There is excellent density to the delicious, vibrant and caressing flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also serves to buffer the firm acid spine shaping the lemony and very dry finale. This is more powerful than it usually is and if served blind, it could easily pass for a Bâtard. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from the Clos Poirier on the Puligny side). This is quite aromatically similar to the BBM though with slightly less petrol character. Somewhat unusually, the medium-bodied flavors aren't as concentrated and they're slightly finer as well with a lovely mid-palate texture that contrasts somewhat with the mildly tangy if highly persistent finish. I suspect that the acidity will better integrate with time as the richness augments. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from the Puligny side). There is a discreet but not invisible touch of wood framing the reserved, pure and refined citrus, white and yellow orchard fruit and overtly floral nose. The broad-shouldered yet refined flavor profile is one of concentration, richness and power that benefits substantially from the superb level of dry extract that also buffers well the firm supporting acidity on the strikingly long and explosive finish. I very much like the balance that should permit this to age gracefully and overall, this is potentially brilliant. (93-96)/2033+

### **Maison Camille Giroud (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Ton Ton Marcel" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Vergers" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Mercurey</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Les Vireuils"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>

*Régisseur* Carel Voorhuis explained that 2021 "was a year where it was frankly difficult to keep your morale up as it was just one problem after another. There was obviously the devastating frost, which meant we knew in advance that there wouldn't be much yield, and then to work like hell to save what little was left against seemingly non-stop disease pressure was ultra-challenging. We picked from the 20<sup>th</sup> of September to the first of October and there was a lot of sorting required; indeed we lost another 10 to 15% just from that process. Yields in pinot were highly variable because while the average was -60%, they ranged from normal to literally zero. By contrast, potential alcohols were good at between 12 and 13% so I chaptalized the wines that came in on the lower end of the range. I used some whole clusters but less than I usually do as it seemed clear that the wines weren't going to need the freshness that typically comes by using a high percentage of stems. In a fashion, I decided to let the wines make themselves because I vinified very lightly though over an extended period figuring that whatever was worth extracting would do so on its own. After we barreled down, I honestly didn't like the wines though I'm not entirely sure whether it was the wines themselves or whether the growing season was so damn difficult that I had trouble reconciling with them! Once the malos were finished though I began to like them better as they offer enough density allied with finesse to be quite interesting. With respect to the whites, what really stands out about them is their energy and tension along with superb definition. They also fermented out very dry so there is a touch of austerity that should progressively diminish with age. For those who love classic white Burgundy, 2021 will please you." There are some really lovely wines in the range and from top to bottom. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Wilson & Daniels, [www.wilsonandaniels.com](http://www.wilsonandaniels.com), CA, USA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, [www.ndcweb.com](http://www.ndcweb.com), GA, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), both UK; Racines, [www.racines-japan.com](http://www.racines-japan.com) and Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), both Japan; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Le Maître de Chai, [www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca](http://www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca), Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A classic aligoté nose freely offers up its aromas of spice, citrus and green apple. There is unusually good density to the intense and appealingly textured middleweight flavors that conclude in an impressively long, chiseled and very dry but not austere finish. This is excellent for what it is and recommended. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne:** Here too there is an abundance of citrus and green apple elements, along with a floral top note. The racy and equally dense medium weight flavors possess excellent delineation on the lingering, balanced and very dry finale. This isn't quite as complex but is also very good for what it is and equally recommended. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Mercurey:** (from En Mussiaux). Cool and airy aromas include those of essence of pear, lemon rind and a hint of mineral reduction. Curiously, the mid-palate isn't quite as dense though there is good vibrancy to the flavors that conclude in a moderately austere and slightly lean finale. This is perfectly good even though the balance isn't as dialed in as it could be. (86-89)/2026+



**2021 Meursault “Les Vireuils”:** An abundance of floral elements, especially acacia blossom, adds a touch of elegance to the aromas of green apple, mineral reduction and lemon-lime. There is superb mid-palate density to the almost painfully intense medium-bodied flavors that exude plenty of mineral character such this the texture is akin to rolling a tiny pebble around the mouth, all wrapped in a chiseled, linear and bone-dry finale. This is an excellent and ageworthy Meursault *villages* that should repay up to a decade of keeping. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers”:** (from Vergers proper). There is a vague touch of the exotic in evidence on the exceptionally fresh and lightly oaked mix of petrol, rosemary oil and white and yellow orchard fruit aromas. The seductively textured and solidly dense medium weight plus flavors are blessed with an abundance of dry extract that coats the palate on the surprisingly powerful, complex, focused and attractively long finish. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Ton Ton Marcel”:** (a rarely seen 1er measuring only .50 ha that is part of the *climat* of La Grande Montagne). This is aromatically similar to the Vergers though distinctly cooler and airier. The middleweight flavors aren’t as dense though they are both finer and stonier while delivering excellent persistence on the youthfully austere, balanced and more complex finale. This is lovely and I very much like the understated and refined style. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts”:** There is a discreet hint of mineral reduction to the citrus and markedly floral-suffused aromas that also display a petrol nuance. There is excellent intensity to the rich, round and succulent medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the sappy, clean, dry and focused finale. This attractively poised and balanced effort could use better depth but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur if given a chance. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from En Charlemagne in Pernand, Les Languettes in Aloxe and Les Rognets in Ladoix). An overtly spicy and pure nose is comprised by cool notes of green apple, citrus zest, acacia blossom and mineral reduction. The middleweight flavors are not quite as concentrated as those of the Vergers, but they are still quite powerful on the almost painfully intense, mineral-driven and moderately austere finale. This firm and compact effort is quite backward and one that makes clear that it’s going to need at least some patience. This beauty is excellent with the development potential to match. (92-94)/2031+

#### Domaine Georges Glantenay (Volnay)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Vieille Vigne	white	86
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay “Lameroles”	white	86
2021	Meursault “Les Santenots”	white	88
2021	Monthélie “Les Champ Fulliot” 1er	white	89

Please see Issue 90 or the searchable Burghound database to have Guillaume Glantenay, and his sister Sarah’s take on the 2021 vintage. (Vins Rare, [www.vinsrare.com](http://www.vinsrare.com), CA, Misa Imports, [www.misaimports.com](http://www.misaimports.com), TX, World Wine Source/Russell Herman, 908/771.9082, NJ, all USA; Liberty Wines, [www.libertywine.co.uk](http://www.libertywine.co.uk), Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), both UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Montreal and Newfoundland Labrador Liquor Corporation, [www.nlliquor.com](http://www.nlliquor.com), both Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Vieille Vigne:** A spicy, cool and ultra-fresh nose speaks mostly of green apple and citrus with a floral top note. The old vines are very much in evidence as there is good density to the solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean and bone-dry if not especially complex finale. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay “Lameroles”:** A very subtle though still easily perceptible application of wood sets off aromas of just cut apple and citrus along with a hint of anise. There is excellent volume and richness to the attractively punchy flavors that also terminate in a clean, balanced and dry finale where the wood telegraphed by the nose reemerges. 86/2024+

**2021 Meursault “Les Santenots”:** (from Santenots Dessous, which is a *villages*-level wine for white). A very pretty and fresh nose combines notes of white flowers, petrol and pear with a very subtle touch of wood. The supple, delicious and almost opulently rich medium-bodied flavors that conclude in an equally dry finale. This isn’t an elegant wine but it’s satisfying in its fashion. 88/2025+

**2021 Monthélie “Les Champ Fulliot”:** Airy, cool and very pretty aromas reflect notes of soft oak, apple and floral scents together with a vague phenolic wisp. The rich but relatively fine middleweight flavors possess excellent volume while delivering solid length on the balanced finale. This could use better depth but it’s certainly refreshing. 89/2025+



### Domaine Henri Gouges (Nuits St. Georges)

2021	Bourgogne Pinot Blanc	white	86
2021	Nuits St. Georges "La Perrière" 1er	white	90

Please see Issue 89, or the Burghound database, for more detail on the 2021 vintage *chez* Gouges. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Avery's Wine Merchants, [www.averys.com](http://www.averys.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), and Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), all UK; Wein & Vin, [www.weinvin.com](http://www.weinvin.com), Singapore; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Pinot Blanc:** (the annual production is around 3,500 bottles; this is noted as pinot blanc on the cork). Relatively prominent petrol nuances are present on the agreeably fresh nose of citrus and apple scents. The rich and generously proportioned flavors are solidly concentrated and particularly so for the genre, all wrapped in a nicely vibrant and refreshing if somewhat simple finish. 86/now+

**2021 Nuits St. Georges "La Perrière":** (from white pinot noir, which is better known as Pinot Gouges; the vines were planted in 1947 - the annual production is between 2000 and 2500 bottles). A fresh, ripe and vaguely exotic nose offers up notes of white peach, apricot and a whiff of lychee. The delicious medium-bodied flavors possess a more sophisticated texture and notably better depth and persistence on the balanced, lightly stony and attractively dry finale. To enjoy young. 90/2024+

### Château-Gris (Nuits St. Georges) – Domaines Albert Bichot

2021	Nuits St. Georges – Les Terrasses	white	88
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Since 1978, this domaine has been owned by Maison Albert Bichot, who controls it through its subsidiary Lupé-Cholet. (Albert Bichot USA, [www.albert-bichot.com](http://www.albert-bichot.com), USA; Stannary Wine, [www.stannarywine.com](http://www.stannarywine.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Soho Wine Supply Ltd, [www.sohowine.co.uk](http://www.sohowine.co.uk), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), Inverarity Morton, [www.inveraritymorton.com](http://www.inveraritymorton.com), C & O Wines, [www.cowines.com](http://www.cowines.com), all UK).

**2021 Nuits St. Georges – Les Terrasses:** (from a parcel in Les Crotts; in 2021, 1552 bottles and 24 magnums were produced). A whiff of mineral reduction is present on the pretty aromas of citrus and white flowers. There is excellent intensity to the overtly stony middleweight flavors that conclude in a chiseled, youthfully austere and linear finish. This bone-dry effort should benefit from a few years of keeping in the hopes of adding more depth. 88/2026+

### Domaine Anne Gros (Vosne-Romanée)

2021	➡ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(86-89)
2021	Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits Cuvée Marine	white	(86-88)

For Julie Gros' (Anne's daughter) take on the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the searchable Burghound database. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), NY, Dionysus Imports, [www.dionysusimports.com](http://www.dionysusimports.com), VA, H2Vino, [www.h2vino.com](http://www.h2vino.com), IL, North Berkeley Imports, [www.northberkeleyimports.com](http://www.northberkeleyimports.com), CA, all USA; Asset Wines, [www.assetwines.com](http://www.assetwines.com), Adnams & Co, [www.adnams.co.uk](http://www.adnams.co.uk), Albion Wine Shippers, [www.albionwineshippers.co.uk](http://www.albionwineshippers.co.uk), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Emile Wines Ltd., [www.emilewines.co.uk](http://www.emilewines.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), all UK; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits Cuvée Marine:** There is a vague suggestion of the exotic present on the mix of apple, pear and a hint of pineapple. There is good volume and richness to the utterly delicious flavors that are supported by bright citrus-tinged acidity on the agreeably dry finale. To enjoy young for its crunchy fruit. (86-88)/now+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** A whiff of petrol character can be found on the citrus-suffused aromas of white orchard fruit and floral-scented nose. There is just a bit more volume to the round and nicely rich middleweight flavors that conclude in an equally dry and slightly more complex finale. This highly refreshing effort is worth a look. (86-89)/2024+

### **Domaine Gros Frère et Soeur (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>

Bernard Gros has expanded the Domaine primarily in the Hautes Côtes as 12 of the 20 ha are now located there. The vines for this Bourgogne are fully 400 meters in altitude. His son Vincent has taken over the vinification and for his comments on the 2021 vintage, see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. Note the 2020 was revisited in bottle below. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Stacole Wines, [www.stacolewines.com](http://www.stacolewines.com), FL, both USA; no sanctioned UK importers; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits:** Aromas of pear, citrus and just sliced apple give way to rich and nicely concentrated middleweight flavors that terminate in a very clean, crisp and attractively dry finish that offers both a touch of minerality and very good precision. Worth considering. (86-89)/2024+

**2020 Bourgogne – Hautes Côtes de Nuits:** Ripe and nicely fresh aromas include those of white peach, citrus confit and subtle floral and petrol wisps. The delicious, plump, round and succulent medium weight flavors that exhibit an appealingly dry finale that is unusually powerful for the Haut Côtes. This isn't refined but offers much to like in the context of its level. This too is worth a look. 87/2024+

### **Domaine Antonin Guyon (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>

This large 48 ha domaine is directed by Dominique Guyon and his *maître de chai* Vincent Nicot. To have their collective view of the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound searchable database. The 2021 vintage is a clear success for the domaine and several of these whites are very much worth your interest, and in particular the superb Meursault “Charmes” and the Puligny “Pucelles”. (Down to Earth Wines, <https://downtoearthwines.net>, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Raeburn Fine Wines, [www.raeburnfinewines.com](http://www.raeburnfinewines.com), all UK; Wineinvein, <https://www.wineinvein.com>, Vinotheket, <https://vinotheket.dk>, both Denmark; BVBA Boutelegier, <https://www.boutelegier.be>, Belgium; Direct Domaine Distribution, <https://direct-domaines-distribution.com>, Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), both Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (note that in some markets this is sold under the appellation of Hautes Côtes de Beaune). A discreet application of wood frames the cool and airy aromas of petrol, white orchard fruit and zest. The sleek, intense and nicely detailed middleweight flavors possess a lovely sense of vibrancy that carries over to the clean and dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses “Sous Frétille”:** (from Les Quartiers). This is also aromatically cool and airy with its array of citrusy green apple scents. There is very good richness and better volume to the attractively vibrant medium-bodied flavors that flash ample minerality on the clean and dry finale that offers sneaky good length. This pretty effort could use better depth but more should reasonably develop if held for a few years first. 90/2026+

**2021 Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus”:** Moderate wood influence frames more elegant and slightly riper aromas of acacia blossom, mineral reduction and cool lemon zest. There is both excellent intensity and concentration to the more refined medium-bodied flavors that deliver markedly better depth and persistence on the more tightly wound finale. This is excellent and a wine that has the potential to evolve over a decade. Worth considering as this is very good. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** (from a small .13 ha parcel). Cool, pure and elegant aromas include those of honeysuckle, green apple and a pretty range of citrus elements. There is a bit more volume if less minerality to the medium weight flavors that deliver excellent length on the balanced if slightly less complex finale. This is also very good and offers similar development potential. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a .87 ha holding apportioned between 25% Les Renardes, 50% En Charlemagne and 25% Le Charlemagne). A more restrained nose features grudging aromas of green apple, lemon-lime and spice along with a Chablis-like hint of iodine. The racy, sleek and tautly muscular larger-bodied flavors flash an almost pungent minerality on the overtly austere, compact and built-to-age finale that makes clear this is not for early drinking. That however is fine as this needs to develop better depth so a few years of cellaring should help to remedy that. Lovely. (91-94)/2031+

### **Domaine Jean-Pierre Guyon (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Coteaux Bourguignons “Les Glapigny”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Morey St. Denis “La Bidaude”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Nuits St. Georges “Les Argillats” Pinot Blanc</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>

Jean-Pierre Guyon runs this 6 ha organically certified estate that strives to create traditional age-worthy reds and whites. The approach is to harvest ripe and clean fruit that is vinified softly (often with only one punch down), using varying percentages of whole cluster over a 3 week cuvaion. The new wines are given 16 to 20 months of *élevage* using anywhere from zero to 100% new wood. Once they are deemed ready for bottling, the reds are typically neither fined nor filtered though Guyon makes clear that he will filter if the wine needs it. Natural cork is used with the NDtech brand stopper that is tested for TCA content. For the whites, the lees are never stirred as the goal is to have chiseled wines with tension and verve. During the pressing, he allows the must to turn brown so that what can oxidize does, and is then removed. Moreover, he puts the barrels outside during the winter so they, in a fashion, cold stabilize (means to precipitate out tartrates). They are fined only if necessary and typically lightly filtered and then bottled with about 15 ppm of free sulfur and only 40 to 45 ppm total. Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database for more information on the 2021 vintage. (Importers not provided).

**2021 Coteaux Bourguignons “Les Glapigny”:** (the blend has about 1/3 pinot blanc in it). Discreet wood influence is present on the aromas of petrol, citrus and a subtle floral suggestion. The opulent, rich and plump flavors possess a seductive texture that contrasts markedly with the lemony, very dry and mildly rustic finish. To enjoy young. (86-88)/now+

**2021 Morey St. Denis “La Bidaude”:** Hints of mineral reduction and anise add breadth to the ultra-fresh aromas of citrus and green apple. The racy and overtly stony middleweight flavors conclude in a bone-dry, linear and austere finale that may be more than some palates prefer. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Nuits St. Georges “Les Argillats” Pinot Blanc:** A dollop of wood serves as a relatively neutral backdrop for the fresh aromas of petrol, citrus confit, spice and just sliced apple. There is a lovely sense of underlying vibrancy to the succulent and rounded medium weight flavors that offer slightly better depth on the dry, refreshing and mildly rustic finale where the wood displayed by the nose gradually resurfaces. (88-91)/2025+

### **Maison Harbour (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Tilleuls”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Côte d’Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Meursault “Porusot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault-Blagny “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Meursault “Le Limozin”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Santenay “Les Gravières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Savigny-lès-Beaune “Dessus les Vermots”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

A young Canadian/American couple, Colleen and Nicholas Harbour, started a small *négociant* operation from their digs in Savigny, which they are slowly expanding to accommodate more equipment. Their first vintage was in 2013 and they only buy fruit for their reds, which means that they vinify everything. Conversely, it depends on sources and quality for their whites. As to the 2021 vintage, Nicholas succinctly noted that “volumes were down about 10% but only because we added several wines.

Unfortunately, prices were up substantially so the cost of our raw materials is becoming ever more problematic in trying to offer a top-quality product at a reasonable price. On the plus side, we've established a sufficiently good reputation with most of our suppliers that we have more flexibility in terms of establishing our own picking dates. This has the added benefit of allowing us to do our own sorting which, to put it politely, it's clear that we're more rigorous in this regard. We didn't use any whole clusters in the vinification, which we chose to do using a lighter touch. We like this vintage a lot for its energy but also because the terroirs that we've chosen to work with are wonderfully transparent." (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com) and Diva Beaune, [www.divawine.com](http://www.divawine.com), both Beaune, France; Vino Veritas Ltd., Brookfield, WI, Advintage, [www.advintagedistributing.com](http://www.advintagedistributing.com), Raleigh, North Carolina, MS Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), New York, New York, Passionné de Vin Imports, [www.pdvimports.com](http://www.pdvimports.com), Petaluma, CA; Consulon LLC, [www.consulon.com](http://www.consulon.com), Newberg, OR, all USA; The Sampler Wine Merchant, [www.thesampler.co.uk](http://www.thesampler.co.uk), London, The Social Wine Co., [www.thewinesocial.co.uk](http://www.thewinesocial.co.uk), London, both United Kingdom; Burgundian Imports, [www.burgundianimports.com](http://www.burgundianimports.com), Nova Scotia, Canada; Wein am Limit, [www.weinamlimit.de](http://www.weinamlimit.de), Hamburg, Germany; Ybenets Wine AB, Nacka, Sweden; Vinomani ApS, [www.vinomani.dk](http://www.vinomani.dk), Dragoer, Denmark; Vininor AS, [www.vininor.no](http://www.vininor.no), Oslo, Norway; DP Trade, [www.wine-dp-trade.ru](http://www.wine-dp-trade.ru), Moscow, Russia).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Tilleuls”:** Super-fresh, spice and very aligoté-like aromas include those of citrus and cool green apple. There is excellent density to the almost suave flavors that flash evident minerality on the clean, bone-dry and lingering finish that is shaped by bright lemon-tinged acidity. This is pretty and certainly refreshing but lacks the same depth as the Bourgogne Côte d'Or. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** Exuberantly fresh and bright aromas include those of mostly citrus zest and just cut green apple along with a background spice nuance. The racy and solidly concentrated middleweight flavors possess fine depth and persistence on the youthfully austere and attractively dry finale. This well-made effort offers good quality for the genre and is worth checking out. 87/2025+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune “Dessus les Vermots”:** A distinctly cool and airy if somewhat restrained nose features hints of sliced citrus, apple and an interesting whiff of exotic tea. The delicious and highly vibrant if not especially dense flavors do flash excellent delineation on the sneaky long, stony and youthfully austere finale. This very dry and refreshing effort is actually quite pretty and if it develops more depth than I anticipate with a few years of keeping, my rating could be on the low side. 88/2026+

**2021 Santenay “Les Gravières”:** This is also aromatically cool and airy with more evident citrus influence to the notes of mineral reduction, crushed fennel and a white orchard fruit scents. The rich, caressing and generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors also exude a subtle stoniness on the focused, balanced and moderately dry finale. This could use better depth but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur if given a chance. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Le Limozin”:** There is a subtle touch of petrol character to the more elegant and slightly riper aromas of pear compote, acacia blossom and lemon-lime. There is slightly better density to the attractively textured and lightly stony middleweight flavors that possess a caressing mid-palate that contrasts moderately with the youthfully austere and bone-dry finale. This too could use better depth and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that more will develop in time. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “1er”:** (from La Pièce Sous La Bois and Sous le Dos d'Âne). This is more expressive with its combination of cool and airy aromas of hazelnut, almond, pear and acacia blossom. There is almost painful intensity to the beautifully delineated medium-bodied flavors that exhibit ample minerality onto the attractively textured, chiseled and persistent finish. Once again, better depth would be a plus but this appears to have the necessary potential. 90/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Porusot”:** This is aromatically a bit less ripe than it usually is, indeed to the point that there are spicy green apple nuances present on the otherwise more typical aromas of pear, hazelnut and acacia blossom. There is excellent intensity and punch to the detailed and relatively powerful middleweight plus flavors that deliver very fine length on the notably complex, robust and borderline tannic finale. At least some patience strongly recommended. 92/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Les Languettes in Aloxe, which is noted on both the back label and the cork). Discreet notes of wood and petrol add breadth to the equally cool and pure aromas of citrus, acacia blossom, wet stone and green apple. There is excellent volume and cut to the tension-filled bigger-bodied flavors that brim with minerality before concluding in a palate staining and powerful finish that is lemony, overtly austere and somewhat strict. Patience will again be necessary and here too my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that the finish will better harmonize with a few years of keeping. 92/2031+

## Armand Heitz (Chaudenay)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	85
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie” 1er	white	90
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er	white	90
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	93
2021	St. Aubin “Castets” 1er	white	89

As I reported last year, Armand Heitz decided to change his entire approach to almost everything wine related. As a refresher, he chose to buy a very large château on the outskirts of Chagny in a little hamlet of Chaudenay, which is approximately 15 minutes from his old digs in Chassagne. This year, he showed me around to see all of the modifications and updates to the château, which is more than large enough to serve both as a winery and a reception room for celebrations, weddings and the like. Also, because he wasn't happy with the consistency of fruit quality he was obtaining through biodynamic farming, he has chosen to modify that strategy somewhat by going to a, for lack of a better term, more holistic approach that includes different plants in the vineyards, such as fruits and vegetables, as well as animals. This isn't the place to try to explain the various nuances, but the central idea is that all forms of nature are related and intertwined and the more of them that can be incorporated in his viticulture, the more consistent the results. I'm not doing his much more complex philosophy justice with that summary, but it provides you with an idea. Moreover, the introduction of plants and animals isn't just for show. Selected products are sold at a tasting room in Pommard that is open to the public; it is located just off the smaller town square near the church. These products, by the way, include working with a brewer and while I'm no expert on beer, I will say that a bottle he gave me to try was excellent. Third, Heitz notes that, particularly for the whites, he used significantly less new wood than in the past. For those that are interested in cork policies, Heitz has chosen to use the Diam brand composite cork for both colors. Lastly, the Chevalier was not presented due to the miniscule quantity. (T. Edward Wines, [www.tedwardwines.com](http://www.tedwardwines.com), NY, Old World Importing, Inc., [www.oldworldimporting.com](http://www.oldworldimporting.com), CO, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA, A.H.D. Wine Imports, [www.ahdvintners.com](http://www.ahdvintners.com), MI and Dionysus Imports, [www.dionysusimports.com](http://www.dionysusimports.com), TX, all USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** A nose of petrol, citrus and apple is complemented by punchy and reasonably concentrated flavors that conclude in a bitter lemon-inflected, rustic and somewhat simple finish. To enjoy young. 85/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A very aligoté like nose freely reveals its notes of citrus rind, green apple and a range of spice wisps. There is much better density to the attractively textured middleweight flavors that deliver notably better depth on the clean, persistent and bone-dry but not really austere finale. This is quite good for the genre and worth considering. 87/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin “Castets”:** A much more floral-suffused nose reflects additional notes of mineral reduction, lemon-lime and a whiff of green apple. There isn't quite the same density though the texture of the medium weight flavors is finer and with more evident minerality on the moderately austere and equally bone-dry finale. This is clearly built-to-age and a wine that's going to need at least a few years of patience as it's quite compact today. 89/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie”:** (from a .70 ha holding in Ez Crets and Les Places). A riper nose features aromas of rosemary oil, spice and various white orchard fruit scents. The supple and relatively forward medium-bodied flavors possess a highly seductive mid-palate texture that contrasts somewhat with the youthfully austere, clean and very dry finale where a touch of bitter lemon character slowly emerges. Maltroie usually drinks well young and while this is sufficiently structured to repay up to a decade of keeping, 2 to 3 years should allow it to be approachable if you prefer your whites on the younger side. 90/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from Tête du Clos and Petite Clos). This is slightly riper still with its less elegant array of white peach, pear, petrol and soft citrus confit scents. There is better volume and richness to the round and caressing medium weight flavors that possess good mid-palate fat, all wrapped in a solidly persistent, powerful and reasonably complex finish that also exhibits a hint of bitter lemon. This isn't an elegant wine, but it is generous and satisfying in its fashion. I would add that this too should repay up to a decade of keeping but also be approachable young if desired. 90/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from a .70 ha holding). Subtle wood sets off cool, pure and airy aromas of pear, green apple, lavender and an interesting hint of star anise. I very much like the impressive intensity of the overtly mineral-driven flavors that exude a Chablis-like nuance of iodine on the chiseled, moderately austere and hugely long finale. This will need a few years of cellaring to develop better depth but that should occur if given a chance. Lovely. 93/2031+



### Domaine Hoffmann-Jayer (Magny-lès-Villers)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits	white	(87-90)

To have *régis*seur Alexandre Vernet's views on the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (Calvert Woodley, [www.calvertwoodley.com](http://www.calvertwoodley.com), Washington, DC, USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** (from yields of 17 hl/ha). An exuberantly fresh and very spicy nose is comprised mostly by citrus and apple scents. There is good mid-palate sap and density to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess notably better than average depth and persistence in the context of what is typical for the genre. Worth considering. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune:** (from a 50-50 blend of pinot blanc and chardonnay; from yields of 21 hl/ha). An admirably discreet application of wood sets off the equally fresh if even cooler aromas of green apple, citrus zest and a spice hint. The rich, plump and generous yet punchy medium weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the lingering, nicely dry and sneaky long finale. This is also very good for what it is. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits:** (from yields of 30 hl/ha). Though it remains subtle, the wood treatment is slightly more noticeable on the super-fresh aromas of just sliced apple, pear and citrus confit. The denser and more powerful medium-bodied flavors coat the palate with dry extract while a prominent bead of minerality adds a sense of lift to the impressively long finale. This isn't refined but it's an unusually good example and well-worth considering. (87-90)/2025+

### Domaine Huber-Verdereau (Volnay)

2021	Auxey-Duresses "Les Ecussaux"	white	87
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes	white	85
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	86
2021	Mercurey "Les Combins" 1er	white	86
2021	Meursault "En Dressoles"	white	88

Thiébaud Huber, who runs this 9.5 ha biodynamically farmed domaine, lamented that "we basically got killed again in terms of yields and it was even worse than 2016, which was already awful! Overall, while it was quite variable, I realized on average exactly 6 hl/ha even if the reds were slightly better than the whites only because one of them came in at 20 hl/ha. Across all of my Meursault vines, the yield was only 8 hl/ha. In short, while I wasn't exactly staying up at night wondering, I think I found the limit of organic viticulture! When temperatures fall so quickly to as low as -7° C, which was the case in Meursault, there's little that can be done as even warming candles, absent putting one per vine, aren't effective, especially when it's wet as it was with the snow. This was followed by one of the most intense series of diseases that I have ever seen. Quite frankly, it was hard to keep your morale up knowing that you were fighting like hell to save not much. The harvest finally arrived and we began picking on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and it was further disheartening to throw out even more crop via sorting. It was necessary but painful nonetheless. For the reds, I did a lighter, but not light vinification that lasted, depending on the wine, between 18 and 25 days and in 2021, I chose to use no whole clusters. Technically it was difficult to manage because of the tiny quantities and in particular, to prevent having overly high levels of volatile acidity. On the plus side, at least the wines are good and I'm happy with the quality, but a few more vintages with these kinds of yields and a lot of domaines will no longer be in business." I would add that Huber typically vinifies without sulfur and employs a very low sulfur *élevage* and thus sometimes his wines can show varying amounts of volatile acidity or leesy reduction. (Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR, True North Wine Merchants, [www.truenorthwines.com](http://www.truenorthwines.com), CA and VOS Selections, [www.vosselections.com](http://www.vosselections.com), NY, all USA; no known UK importers).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Vieilles Vignes:** There is just enough reduction to suppress everything but a few spice wisps. Otherwise, the racy, detailed and delicious flavors possess an attractive mid-palate mouthfeel that contrasts markedly with the curiously metallic and short finish. I don't know what might have happened but something is mildly amiss, even if it doesn't exactly render the wine unpleasant. 85/now

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** A fresh and overtly exotic nose features aromas such as pineapple, mango and citrus. There is excellent vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean, dry, linear and chiseled finish where a touch of lemon zest slowly emerges. To enjoy young. 86/now

**2021 Auxey-Duresses "Les Ecussaux":** (from the *villages* portion of the vineyard). A markedly cooler nose grudgingly reveals its array of citrus confit, various white orchard fruit and discreet mineral reduction hints. There is outstanding delineation and verve to the delicious medium weight flavors that also conclude in a linear, bone-dry and lingering if slightly lean finish. A year of keeping should help but I suspect that this will always be a bit skinny on the backend. 87/2024+

**2021 Mercurey "Les Combins":** A whiff of the exotic and a touch of volatile acidity can be found on the mostly white orchard fruit aromas. On the palate there is good richness to the solidly concentrated flavors that offer reasonable depth though the finish is somewhat dry as well as bit lean and short. I would suggest trying this in its youth as it may dry out further with age. 86/2024+

**2021 Meursault "En Dressoles":** There is enough reduction to push the underlying fruit to the background so I would suggest giving this a thorough aeration if you're tempted to try a bottle upon release. There is excellent energy as well as cut to the acceptably dense and attractively textured middleweight flavors that also terminate in a clean and very dry but not short or especially austere finale. This would benefit from having better depth so a few years of keeping should prove to be beneficial. 88/2026+

### **Domaine Hudelot-Baillet (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Nuits</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
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To read Dominique Le Guen's views on the 2021 vintage, please see either Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnikwines.com](http://www.skurnikwines.com) NY, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY and Crus Wines, [www.cruwines.net](http://www.cruwines.net) CA, all USA; Christopher Piper Wines, [www.christopherpiperwines.co.uk](http://www.christopherpiperwines.co.uk) and Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), both UK).

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Nuits:** A deft application of wood is already well-integrated into the aromas of petrol, citrus confit and a whiff of apple. There is both good volume and richness to the utterly delicious middleweight flavors that are shaped by bright acidity on the very dry yet not short or especially austere finale. To enjoy young. (86-88)/2024+

### **Domaine Hudelot-Noëllat (Vougeot)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault "Clos des Écoles"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
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More information on the 2021 vintage from Charles Van Canneyt can be found in Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Bayfield Imports, [www.bayfieldimporting.com](http://www.bayfieldimporting.com), NY and A Daniel Johnnes Selection, Imported by Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, all USA; Clarion Wines, [www.clarionwines.co.uk](http://www.clarionwines.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com) and Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), all UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), both Hong Kong and Macau; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia).

**2021 Meursault "Clos des Écoles":** (from a .50 ha parcel). A very Meursault nose consists of bright and fresh aromas of acacia, hazelnut, various white orchard fruit and a discreet dollop of wood. The attractively textured and nicely rich medium weight flavors possess a lovely sense of verve that carries over to the clean, moderately dry and lingering finale. This easy to like effort should repay a few years of keeping though it could also be enjoyed shortly after release. (87-89)/2025+

### Maison Louis Jadot (Beaune)

2021	Auxey-Duresses	white	(87-90)
2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(90-93)
2021	Beaune "Bressandes" 1er	white	(89-91)
2021	Beaune "Grèves" 1er	white	(88-91)
2021	Bouzeron	white	87
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Abbaye de Morgeot" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Embazées" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet "Les Demoiselles" Grand Cru	white	(93-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(93-96)
2021	Fixin "Clos Moreau"	white	88
2021	Marsannay	white	87
2021	Meursault	white	(86-89)
2021	Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Meursault "Perrières" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Meursault "Narvaux"	white	(87-89)
2021	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(93-95)
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "Clos de la Croix de Pierre"	white	(88-90)
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "Les Combottes"	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Garenne" 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "La Garenne" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	Rully	white	87
2021	Santenay "Clos de Malte"	white	(87-89)
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune "Clos des Guettes" 1er	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ St. Aubin	white	(89-91)
2021	St. Romain	white	(86-88)

Technical director Frédéric Barnier, who is always an incredible wealth of information about each vintage, described 2021 as another one that "began with a relatively warm winter and a very clement February that was followed by a very warm end of March. This was the source of the real problem as the vines, and in particular the chardonnay, reacted predictably to the warmth with bud burst. When the frost arrived during the nights of the 6th, 7th and 8th of April, the results were equally predictable thanks to two key aspects. The first was the length of the frost over three nights and the second was the humidity thanks to a light snowstorm on the 7th. We tried protecting some parcels on the night of the 8th but frankly, we wasted our time as the damage was largely done at that point. I actually had cautious hopes that the pinot might have been mostly spared but that optimism turned out to be misplaced as well, even if the damage wasn't as bad as it was for the chardonnay. April and May were cool and the vines were so traumatized by the frost that there was barely any apparent activity. It was also humid because even though there wasn't much rain, there were frequent tiny storms. The vines that were the worst frosted had trouble defending themselves against the mildew and oidium followed by a lighter attack of botrytis at the end of the season. We wound up picking between the 21st of September and the 3rd of October. We did our best to avoid second generation fruit but even seasoned pickers have trouble discerning the difference. In the end, we didn't have too much of it in pinot but the chardonnay in some cases was almost exclusively second generation. Our average yield was a pitiful 12 hl/ha for the chardonnay and a scarcely better 17 hl/ha in pinot. Between the two Côtes, it was slightly better in the Côte de Nuits at about 20 hl/ha with between 15 and 16 hl/ha in the Côte de Beaune. There was some sorting necessary for the pinot though the chardonnay was largely quite clean. I suppose if we try to find the good in all of this, it's just as well that yields were low because if not, the fruit never would have adequately ripened. In fact, the harvest reminded me of times gone by as September made the maturities as they were perfectly good. Not high but perfectly reasonable at between 12 and 13% potential alcohols for the pinot and slightly better for the chardonnay. The acidities were quite good in both colors as there was a lot of malic acid. I didn't really change anything in terms of the vinification for the reds though I did block a few of the malos in white. With respect to the *élevage*, perhaps the most difficult aspect of this vintage was managing our wood regimen as the quantities for most wines were so small that it was frankly hard to have enough but not too much, especially for the whites. I would observe that the quality of the wines in both colors was difficult to assess until the malos finished. In red, the style is soft and accessible with excellent terroir transparency. They're juicy yet delicate and I find the quality to be relatively

consistent between the two Côtes. The whites are somewhat austere and I suspect that they may well shut down once they're bottled. They remind somewhat of the 2012s in the sense that they're dense but vibrant. I would add that despite the cool growing season, the pHs are not especially low, which is to say between 3.65 to 3.75 for the reds, which is pretty much where the 2020s came in. As such, it's hard to argue that 2021 produced cool and underripe reds. The whites, while lower, came in between 3.2 to 3.25, which is perfectly good as well and definitely not particularly low and only slightly lower than 2020, which averaged around 3.3. Overall, 2021 has turned out better than I ever imagined that it would, at least with respect to wine quality. The quantities though are another story though better to have a little of something excellent than a lot of something mediocre!" I would agree with Barnier's assessment as there are very good to excellent wines sprinkled throughout the range. Lastly, Barnier noted that some wines were not made as the quantities were simply too small to produce them. (Kobrand, Inc., [www.kobrandwine.com](http://www.kobrandwine.com), NY, USA; Hatch Mansfield Ltd., [www.hatchmansfield.com](http://www.hatchmansfield.com), Uncorked Ltd, [www.uncorked.co.uk](http://www.uncorked.co.uk), both UK).

**2021 Bouzeron:** (from Les Pertuzots and Les Cordères). Spicy aromas of green apple and pear give way to racy, delicious and lightly stony middleweight flavors that deliver reasonable if not distinguished depth and persistence on the clean, dry and lemony finale. This could be enjoyed young or held for 2 to 3 years first. 87/2025+

**2021 Rully:** (from La Gaudine). A deft touch of wood sets off cool yet ripe aromas of white orchard fruit, petrol and floral nuances. The rich and generously proportioned medium weight flavors possess good volume and energy if only average depth on the otherwise balanced and persistent finish. This too could be enjoyed young and probably should be. 87/2024+

**2021 Marsannay:** (partially from chardonnay rosé). Here the floral component is more prominent with its nose of ripe citrus and apple. There is very good volume and richness to the appealingly textured medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the youthfully austere, agreeably dry and slightly rustic finale. 87/2025+

**2021 Fixin "Clos Moreau":** Once again there is a deft application of wood to be found on the cool and airy aromas that include essence of pear, petrol and a whiff of citrus. There is even better volume and mid-palate density to the nicely textured middleweight flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the youthfully austere and more complex finish where the wood exhibited by the nose gradually reappears. 88/2026+

**2021 Santenay "Clos de Malte":** This is also aromatically quite cool with its combination of mineral reduction, freshly sliced green apple and a whiff of lemon-lime. The medium weight flavors are rich to the point of opulence while maintaining good focus on the lingering and unusually powerful finish where a touch of minerality adds a sense of lift. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should help. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 St. Romain:** Reduction presently renders the nose unreadable. More interesting are the rich, round and lightly stony flavors that conclude in a slightly awkward and short finish. This may well better harmonize with a few years of keeping but it's difficult today. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses:** There is a whiff of phenolic character (think olive oil nuances) on the aromas of mostly green apple and citrus rind. There is very good richness and mid-palate density to the round and punchy medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the lemony, agreeably dry and better-balanced finale. (87-90)/2027+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Les Combottes":** Wood toast and menthol can be found on the fresh and airy aromas of mostly just sliced apple and citrus along with a floral top note. There is again very good richness and volume to the equally mineral-inflected flavors that terminate in a bone-dry, youthfully austere and linear finish that flirts with leanness. I suspect that this energetic effort will better flesh out with a few years of keeping. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Clos de la Croix de Pierre":** (from the *villages* portion of En Caradeux). Here the wood treatment is more subtle on the petrol and mineral reduction-suffused aromas of citrus rind, pear and green apple. The middleweight flavors possess a finer mouthfeel and very good richness, in fact the mid-palate is borderline creamy, all wrapped in a sappy and equally dry but more persistent finish that is just a bit more tightly wound. (88-90)/2027+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune "Clos des Guettes":** Once again there is subtle but not imperceptible wood present on the riper aromas of pear liqueur and a pretty range of floral elements. There is both excellent richness and volume to the generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that offer both better depth and persistence as well as better balance. While this should amply repay 5 to 8 years of aging, it could also be approached after only 3-ish years. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Beaune "Bressandes":** Moderate reduction is enough to overshadow everything but a light citrus component. There is noticeable but not intrusive wood present on the impressively rich, suave and seductively textured medium-bodied flavors that deliver reasonably good length on the clean, punchy and balanced finale. This could use better depth, but more should develop if allowed 3 to 6 years of keeping. Note that this is sufficiently opulent to drink well young if desired. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Beaune “Grèves”:** (the label carries the additional notation of “Le Clos Blanc”). A suggestion of exotic herbal tea can be found on the aromas of lemongrass, green apple and anise. There isn't quite the same richness to the delicious middleweight flavors though there is even better punch on the mildly rustic, very dry and mildly awkward finale. My sense is that this crunchy effort will come together once it's bottled. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (100% of the blend is composed of 1ers). Much like the Pernand Combottes, notes of wood and menthol are present on the expressive nose of pretty acacia blossom, lemon-lime and abundance of citrus nuances. The rich and very generous medium weight flavors flash notably more evident minerality on the caressing, clean, dry and sneaky long finish. This is a very good St. Aubin *villages* though it well should be given the 100% premier cru fruit. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** (many different *lieux-dits* are included though the two largest are Narvaux and Tillets). Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to assess though there is both good freshness and verve to the rich and generously proportioned yet still reasonably precise flavors that terminate in a lemony and bone-dry finish that is somewhat lean and distinctly short. I don't know whether I caught this brooding effort when it just wasn't showing well but it's pretty awkward today. (86-89)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Narvaux”:** A background application of wood sets off aromas of petrol, acacia and essence of pear. There is very fine density to the caressing and utterly delicious medium weight flavors that exude evident minerality on the very dry and slightly lean but not short finish. This has a better chance of coming together but it too is a bit awkward. (87-89)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** There is a touch of lemon zest on the aromas of mostly apple, petrol and white floral wisps. There is once again outstanding density to the more refined if less mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that possess a succulent mid-palate that contrasts somewhat with the moderately austere but not especially dry finale that exhibits sneaky good length. This promising if mildly edgy effort should repay mid to even longer-term keeping. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** A more elegant nose offers up a layered array of exotic spiced tea, cool white fruit and pretty floral nuances. There is terrific intensity to the vibrant and succulent, even juicy, medium weight flavors that possess a caressing mouthfeel, all wrapped in a lightly stony and attractively persistent finale that displays better balance. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** Here there is just enough reduction to blur the subtleties of the aromas of white orchard fruit, acacia blossom and discreet wood nuances. The suave and borderline creamy middleweight flavors retain excellent punch while delivering impressively length on the clean, dry and balanced finish. This could use better depth but with a potential aging curve of a decade plus, that should reasonably occur if given a chance. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (while it varies from year to year, this always includes a relatively high percentage of 1ers). A typically Chassagne nose features notes of petrol, rosemary oil and cool pear compote. There is excellent volume and mid-palate density to the mouthcoating medium weight flavors that exhibit good power on the impressively persistent if slightly rustic finale. This is an excellent *villages* and worth your interest. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Embazées”:** (from a .25 ha parcel). This is aromatically similar to the Chassagne *villages* but with a smoky component. The rich, round and generously proportioned fleshy middleweight flavors possess a lush mid-palate texture that is borderline thick, all wrapped in a bitter citrus-tinged finale. This is impressive if somewhat atypical as the normal nuance isn't present, yet my sense is it will develop with bottle aging. As such, my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that it will transform if given a chance. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Abbaye de Morgeot”:** While moderate there is enough wood to notice on the more floral-suffused nose of just sliced pear and citrus. There is excellent volume to the succulent and enveloping medium weight flavors that possess solid mid-palate concentration before terminating in a clean and mouthcoating finish where a hint of bitter lemon appears. This distinctly powerful and beautifully persistent effort should effortlessly repay a decade plus of keeping yet it's not so structured that it couldn't be approached after 5-ish years. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** A more elegant and slightly cooler nose reflects notes of white flower, pear and discreet lemon peel aromas. There is fine volume to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess an abundance of mouthcoating sap that also serves to buffer the moderately firm acid spine on the youthfully austere, lemon zest-inflected and long finale. This is a lovely Puligny *villages* that could be approached young or aged to good effect over the mid-term. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne”:** A cool nose reflects notes of green apple, citrus, white flower and just cut pear nuances. There is excellent delineation and vibrancy to the refined and understated middleweight flavors that are almost aggressively mineral-driven, all wrapped in a moderately austere, compact and serious finale. This lovely effort is sufficiently tightly wound to likely need most of a decade to reach its apogee. (90-93)/2029+



**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos de la Garenne”:** (from a parcel owned by Domaine Duc de Magenta). A smoky nose features notes of petrol, mineral reduction and super-fresh green apple scents. The rich and solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors also flash a pungent minerality that adds a sense of lift to the youthfully austere and sneaky long finish that is even more tightly coiled. This is potentially outstanding though at least some patience is strongly advised. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Foliatières”:** (this *cuvée* will be sold under the Domaine Louis Jadot label in 2021). Firm reduction dominates the underlying fruit at present. Otherwise, the round, suave and very seductively textured medium weight flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract while the youthfully austere and balanced finish immediately tightens up to suggest that this too is going to need a decade plus to realize its full potential. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from Puligny fruit). A beautifully layered nose combines notes of white flowers, citrus, pear and enough wood to merit mentioning. There is an appealingly sleek, intense and textured palate impression to the delicious if not especially concentrated middleweight flavors that evidence a bracing lemon zest character on the balanced and appealingly persistent finale. What this isn't however is particularly complex, in fact it is almost one-dimensional and while more depth will almost certainly develop in time, this doesn't appear to be at its usual excellent level. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles”:** A hint of wood combines with spicy, elegant, fresh and ripe white orchard fruit, citrus and a plethora of floral characters. There is impressive power and mid-palate concentration to the extract-rich middleweight plus flavors that coat the palate before terminating in an intense and attractively dry finish that delivers first-rate persistence and complexity. This is also very tightly coiled but extremely well-balanced and overall, is a wine that should amply repay 12 to 15 years of cellaring. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from Chassagne fruit). Here the slightly more restrained nose is compositionally quite similar to the Demoiselles if perhaps just a bit spicier. There is a sophisticated and highly beguiling textured to the broad-shouldered, sappy and palate soaking flavors that flash slightly less minerality though more power on the highly complex, compact and superbly long finish. This should also amply repay 12 to 15 years of keeping. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Les Pougets in Aloxe-Corton). Cooler and airier aromas include those of mostly green apple, mineral reduction, crushed fennel and white flowers. There is almost painful intensity to the beautifully textured if slightly less concentrated medium-bodied flavors that exude a pungent stoniness on the tautly muscular, moderately austere and bone-dry finale that goes on and on. It's rare that the Jadot CC appears more interesting than the Demoiselles but at this very early juncture, it seems to have a slight edge. Either way, this is terrific. (93-96)/2033+

### **Domaine Antoine Jobard (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault-Blagny “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Genevrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Les Poruzots” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “Sur Le Sentier du Clou” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>

Antoine Jobard was unequivocally enthusiastic about 2021, observing that “the quantities are incredibly tiny but the quality is excellent, particularly for the whites. The frost damage though was terrible and there will be no Trézén or Tillets as the quantities were just too small. On the plus side, maturities were actually pretty good even if they weren't high and they are bolstered by balanced acidities. The two aspects that really stand out about the 2021 vintage is how energetic the wines are as well as how transparent they are to the underlying terroir. Stylistically, 2021 is an old school vintage that should age well as the well are beautifully balanced.” As the ratings and commentaries confirm, I was very impressed by the excellent results that Jobard achieved in 2021 and these are definitely wines to consider adding to your cellars. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, USA; A&B Vintners, [www.abvintners.co.uk](http://www.abvintners.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Emile Wines Ltd., [www.emilewines.co.uk](http://www.emilewines.co.uk), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), all UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from Sous la Velle, En l'Ormeau and La Monatine). Very fresh and bright aromas include those of green apple and plenty of citrus. The succulent and unusually dense middleweight flavors display excellent power in the context of what this is, all wrapped in a clean, dry and sneaky long finish. This is an excellent Bourgogne. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Sous La Velle, Les Corbins, Les Chaumes de Narvaux and Clos le Meix Tavaux, and in 2021, Tillets). A more elegant and better layered nose combines notes of acacia blossom, hazelnut, pear and a like amount of citrus elements. The rich, concentrated and almost painfully intense medium weight flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract that contributes to the lovely texture of the focused, long and balanced finale. This should repay 6 to 8 years of cellaring by developing better depth. This too is worth considering. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard”:** Cool, ultra-pure and airy aromas are comprised by various white orchard fruit scents that are again laced with plenty of citrus elements. The equally cool and beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors exhibit excellent precision on the stony, refined and focused finale. While not always the case for this wine, the 2021 version is a wine of finesse and understatement. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Sur Le Sentier du Clou”:** (from vines planted in 1992). An attractively perfumed and highly nuanced nose offers up notes of primarily white orchard fruit, acacia blossom and wet stone along with background nuances of citrus. There is very good richness and an intense minerality to the sleek medium weight flavors that offer fine complexity and persistence on the clean and notably dry finish. Good stuff and worth your attention. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “1er”:** (from La Pièce Sous le Bois). An exuberantly fresh, pretty and cool nose offers up notes of green apple, lemon rind and airy floral scents. There is good punch to the racy and delicious mineral-inflected middleweight flavors that possess a clean, dry, balanced and ever-so-mildly austere finale that displays outstanding length. If this can add depth with a few years of cellaring, it is potentially stunning. This too is worth your attention. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Poruzots”:** (from a parcel measuring .78 ha that is on the Genevrières side). A trace of reduction shaves the top notes from the otherwise pretty nose of white peach, pear, petrol and soft acacia blossom nuances. There is excellent volume to the suave, round and tautly muscular medium weight plus flavors that possess evident power on the palate soaking and hugely long finale. This is **seriously good** and absolutely recommended. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from a small .17 ha parcel situated directly below Perrières that was planted in 1963). A cooler and slightly more elegant nose features more floral and spice influence on the various what orchard fruit scents. The middleweight flavors are not as rich, concentrated and powerful but they are palpably finer, particularly on the firm, precise, complex and equally persistent finale. This is **also seriously good** but offers a markedly different expression. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** The cool and restrained nose only grudgingly offers up notes of exotic tea, essence of green apple, lemon-lime and mineral reduction scents. The elegant and precise medium-bodied flavors possess outstanding punch on the sleek and gorgeously textured mouthfeel before culminating in a tension-filled, balanced and wonderfully persistent, indeed even explosive finish. Simply put, this is **a stunningly good Genevrières**. (93-96)/20031+

#### Domaine Rémi Jobard (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté “En Buzigny” Vieilles Vignes	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d’Or Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Meursault “Les Chevalières”	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Genevrières” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault “En Luraule”	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Narvaux”	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Le Poruzot-Dessus” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	Meursault “Sous la Velle”	white	(88-91)
2020	➔ Meursault “Narvaux” Élevage Prolongé 30 Mois	white	(90-93)
2020	➔ Meursault “Le Poruzot-Dessus” Élevage Prolongé 30 Mois 1er	white	(92-95)

As is his wont, Rémi Jobard had little to say about the 2021 vintage other than noting “we picked from the 25<sup>th</sup> of September, or basically one month later than in 2020! Yields were basically miserable as we realized only between 10 to 15 hl/ha in chardonnay. Maturities though were very good as they came in between 12.8 and 13.2% with very good acidities. As to the quality, I love this vintage. It’s very old school in style with its combination of elegance, tension and finesse plus the excellent balance and harmony should permit the wines to age for as long as anyone would like.” Jobard noted that the Charmes yielded only one barrel and thus was not presented. Jobard further noted that all wines are now shipped with wax capsules. Lastly, I would observe that while Jobard always makes at least very good whites, he has outdone himself in 2021 as the quality is excellent from top to bottom. See also the review for the 2020 Narvaux and Poruzot-Dessus that were both aged for

30 months in large barrel format as well as the two wines from Jobard's tiny *négociant* operation immediately below. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, USA; Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “En Buzigny” Vieilles Vignes:** A background hint of petrol is present on the cool aromas of just sliced apple and lemon-lime. There is impressive volume in the context of the genre to the dense and succulent middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean and bone-dry but not especially austere finale. This is excellent for its level. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes:** A nicely layered mix features notes of pear and apple compote, pretty floral and a whiff of petrol. There isn't quite the same concentration to the medium weight flavors that do possess a finer texture on the balanced, clean and attractively dry finale. This is also excellent for its level. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault “Sous la Velle”:** (from a .33 ha parcel). Here the expressive nose is compositionally similar to the Bourgogne Côte d'Or but with more prominent floral influence. The medium-bodied flavors possess a more sophisticated texture along with very good mid-palate density, all wrapped in a youthfully austere and bitter lemon-inflected finale. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault “En Luraule”:** (from a .45 ha parcel of 15+ year old vines that abuts Goutte d'Or). This is sufficiently reduced that all that can be discerned is a touch of citrus character. Otherwise, there is better volume to the very rich, even suave, yet quite punchy middleweight flavors that also possess a beguiling texture that carries over to the notably drier and even more persistent finale. This youthfully austere effort is very good for its level and recommended. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Narvaux”:** (from vines of approximately 55+ years of age). This too is sufficiently reduced as to reveal nothing more than background nuances of citrus peel that are picked up by the rich and concentrated if not quite as energetic medium weight flavors that are quite succulent before concluding in a robust, powerful and bone-dry finale. Note that this mildly rustic effort is quite tightly coiled today and will need at least a few years of patience. Recommended. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Chevalières”:** (from vines planted in 1940). This elegant, cool and restrained nose reluctantly offers up hints of mineral reduction on the cool green apple, floral, lemon zest and wet stone scents. The notably finer though clearly less powerful middleweight flavors possess a highly sophisticated mouthfeel along with a pronounced stoniness on the youthfully austere, balanced and tightly coiled finish. This is an excellent Meursault *villages*. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Le Poruzot-Dessus”:** (from .50 ha parcel). Once again the nose is quite firmly reduced and in this case revealing nothing. By contrast, there is terrific intensity to the concentrated big-bodied yet beautifully well-defined flavors that coat the palate with dry extract on the powerful, youthfully austere and borderline rustic finale. This is built-to-age and a wine that's going to require at least some forbearance. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** Once again impenetrable reduction renders the nose unreadable. More interesting are the more refined and more mineral-driven if notably less powerful and muscular flavors that exhibit very fine length on the bone-dry but not really austere finale that is also quite tightly wound. As it usually is, this is a Genevrières of finesse and refinement where the balance should permit 10 to 12 years of upside development potential. (91-93)/2031+

**2020 Meursault “Narvaux” Élevage Prolongé 30 Mois:** (aged for 30 months in a *foudre*, or large wooden barrel). This is riper than its 2021 counterpart with its gently nutty nose of pear, acacia, lilac and white peach. There is excellent punch and volume to the delicious and seductively textured, even caressing medium-bodied flavors that possess a subtle minerality on the moderately austere, balanced and impressively long bone-dry finish. The extended *élevage* has definitely contributed to this possessing excellent complexity and it has everything it needs to age effortlessly. Highly recommended. (90-93)/2030+

**2020 Meursault “Le Poruzot-Dessus” Élevage Prolongé 30 Mois:** (from .50 ha parcel; aged for 30 months in a *foudre*, or large wooden barrel). A ripe blend of white and yellow orchard fruit, especially peach, combines with notes of green fruit, acacia and spice, along with the barest hint of wood influence. The highly seductive yet markedly powerful large-bodied flavors flash evident muscle and minerality while delivering superb length on the very dry but not especially austere finale. This is though very compact and backward and a wine that should age successfully for years. Also strongly recommended provided you intend to age it appropriately. (92-95)/2032+

### Rémi Jobard (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(86-89)

Please see the comments for Domaine Rémi Jobard for more information. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, USA; Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A plenitude of citrus elements adds breadth to the cool and airy green apple scents. There is a lovely sense of punch to the lightly stony middleweight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere, refreshing and appealingly dry finale that offers better than average depth and persistence. Worth a look. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Here too there is plenty of citrus influence to the equally cool green apple scents that flash a background floral top note. The plump but vibrant medium weight flavors possess a slightly finer mouthfeel while delivering solid depth and length on the balanced, clean and slightly firmer finale. This too is worth considering. (86-89)/2025+

### Domaine Joliet Père et Fils (Fixin)

2021	Fixin "Clos de la Perrière" 1er	white	90
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For Bénigne Joliet's views of the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. Specifically with respect to the white, Joliet noted that his yield was down about 70%. (Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY and Bowler, [www.bowlerwine.com](http://www.bowlerwine.com), NY, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), UK).

**2021 Fixin "Clos de la Perrière":** A cool and airy nose reluctantly offers up its restrained nose of citrus, green apple, petrol and a whiff of mineral reduction. There is good mid-palate density to the delicious and stony middleweight flavors that terminate in an agreeably dry, complex and bitter lemon-inflected finale. This moderately dry and youthfully austere finale should repay a few years of keeping though in a pinch, it could be enjoyed young. 90/2025+

### Domaine Gérard Julien & Fils (Comblanchien)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté "Les Creussotes"	white	87
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Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database for Etienne Julien's views on the 2021 vintage. The aligoté was bottled in September 2022. (DNS Wines, [www.dnswines.com](http://www.dnswines.com), CA, USA; Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau; CGU Fine Wines, [www.cgufinewines.com](http://www.cgufinewines.com), Ontario, Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté "Le Creussotes":** Ripe aromas include that of just sliced apple, smoky citrus and a background hint of wood. There is fine richness and volume to the opulent and generously proportioned flavors that offer better than average depth and persistence in the context of the genre. This is worth checking out for an aligoté that is ready to enjoy now as well as be kept for 1 to 2 years. 87/now+

### Domaine Pierre et François Labet (Beaune)

2020	➔ Beaune "Clos du Dessus des Marconnets"	white	89
2020	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes	white	87
2020	➔ Meursault "Les Tillets"	white	91

Edouard Labet told me that the chardonnay was so heavily damaged by the frost in 2021 that the domaine wasn't exactly sure how it was going to proceed with them. As such, they were not presented. I did however revisit the 2020 whites, which are reviewed below. For those readers who might nonetheless be interested in Labet's take on the 2021 vintage, please see Issue

89 or the Burghound database under Château de la Tour. The 2020s, revisited below, were bottled in April 2022. (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), UK).

**2020 Bourgogne Chardonnay Vieilles Vignes:** Notes of white fleshed fruit, petrol and straw are present on the expressive nose. The racy, intense and appealingly textured middleweight flavors possess good length on the attractively dry finale. Lovely and a wine that should drink well upon release. 87/now+

**2020 Beaune “Clos de Dessus de Marconnets”:** A whiff of the exotic can be found on the ripe aromas of pear, melon and citrus that are trimmed in hints of oak. The sleek, intense and cuts-like-a-knife medium weight flavors possess both excellent underlying tension and concentration before culminating in a clean, dry and stony finale. This lemon-suffused effort could use better depth but it’s certainly very pretty and should reward a few years of keeping. Lovely. 89/2024+

**2020 Meursault “Les Tillets”:** (from a large 1.2 ha holding). Pretty and cool yet ripe aromas consist of poached pear, green apple and acacia blossom. The racy and impressively intense flavors exude evident minerality on the chiseled, bone-dry and bone-dry finale. This refined, indeed even delicate, effort is decidedly compact and quite tightly wound so at least a few years of patience should be beneficial. Worth checking out as the quality is excellent for its level. 91/2027+

### **Labruyère-Prieur Sélection (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>

Labruyère-Prieur Sélection is a *négociant* partnership between Domaine Jacques Prieur and co-owner and general director Edouard Labruyère. 2014 was the first vintage and the wines are vinified by Nadine Gublin (who is also responsible for the Prieur wines) exclusively from fruit that is harvested by the partnership rather than from purchased wines. Please see Domaine Jacques Prieur for further details about the 2021 vintage. Specifically, with respect to the two wines reviewed below, Gublin noted that they were picked very late, which is to say the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, were not chaptalized, saw no lees stirring and will be bottled without fining or filtration. (Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY, USA and Jeroboam Wines, [www.jeroboamwines.com](http://www.jeroboamwines.com), NY, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), and Coe Vintners, [www.coevintners.com](http://www.coevintners.com), both UK).

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain”:** (from a .41 ha parcel). Smoky mineral reduction, green apple and citrus zest aromas precede the almost painfully intense and beautifully detailed flavors that exude an evident stoniness on the youthfully austere, clean and very dry finale. This could use better depth but given the potential aging curve, that should reasonably occur. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from two parcels in Tête du Clos and Petit Clos that total a substantial .85 ha). Subtle but not imperceptible wood sets off slightly riper aromas of white peach, lemon confit, rosemary oil and a whiff of anise. The gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors are impressively concentrated while retaining good precision on the powerful, youthfully austere and borderline tannic finale that displays first-rate length. This is excellent and a wine that should age gracefully for at least a decade. Worth your interest. (91-94)/2031+

### **Domaine Michel Lafarge (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Beaune “Clos des Aigrots” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne Aligoté Raisins Dorés</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

For more complete details on Frédéric Lafarge’s views on the 2021 growing season, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. Specifically with respect to the whites, Lafarge noted that the yields were so low that there will be no Meursault Vendange Sélectionnées. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, C’est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, [www.ndcweb.com](http://www.ndcweb.com), GA, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA, all USA; Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com),



Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), all UK; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté Raisins Dorés:** A classic aligoté nose features ultra-fresh notes of spicy green apple and a plethora of citrus elements. There is impressive density to the intense and utterly delicious middleweight flavors that possess unusually good depth on the clean, dry and sneaky long finish. This is an excellent example of the genre and recommended, plus it will age for several years. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (from Vignes Blanches, Cargouillot and En Marcausse, all of which are near the Volnay border). A cool, pure and airy nose freely offers up its array of mostly green apple, zest and acacia blossom. There is again excellent density to the beautifully textured medium weight flavors that exhibit fine length on the saline-suffused, dry and balanced finale. This understated effort is quite good as well and worth your interest. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Beaune “Clos des Aigrots”:** (there are only 4 owners that have the right to use the designation Clos in Aigrots; Lafarge noted that in 2021 only 1 barrel was made versus their usual 6). This is at once ultra-fresh and ultra-cool with its restrained and slightly smoky aromas of just sliced apple, pear and a background floral whiff. There is notably more minerality suffusing the tension-filled medium-bodied flavors that possess a certain mid-palate succulence while retaining fine cut and precision on the chiseled, very dry and lingering finale. This is lovely and also quite understated in style. (90-93)/2026+

#### **Domaine des Comtes Lafon (Meursault)**

2021	➔ Meursault	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Meursault “Bouchères” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	Meursault “Clos de la Baronne”	white	(88-90)
2021	➔ Meursault “Clos de la Barre”	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Meursault – Désirée	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Genevrières” 1er	white	(93-96)
2021	➔ Meursault “Goutte d’Or” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(94-97)
2021	➔ Meursault “Porusots” 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(95-98)

As I reported last year, Dominique Lafon has retired in favor of his daughter Léa and his nephew Pierre, though he remains active as an advisor. On this trip I met with Pierre, who with respect to the reds noted that “we picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of September and brought in mostly clean fruit though some parcels needed more sorting than others. Yields were not good as we were off some 70% and as such, we did not declassify any young vines to create our usual *cuvée* of Volnay *villages*. On the plus side of that though is that I’m not unhappy that yields were low because if not, the fruit would have never adequately ripened. We did a normal vinification because as difficult as the growing season was in the vines, it was easy in the cuverie. Potential alcohols were in the 12 to 13% range, so a few wines were chaptalized at the lower end. As to the wines, they have changed significantly during the *élevage* and continue to improve month by month so I’m not sure when they will be bottled. They should age well but also drink well young as they are well-balanced.” Note that the domaine bottles its wines with the Diam brand of composite corks using the model known as 30. (Beaune Imports, [www.beauneimports.com](http://www.beauneimports.com), CA, Classic Wine Imports, [www.classicwineimports.com](http://www.classicwineimports.com), MA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, C’est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, Terroir Imports, [www.terroirimports.net](http://www.terroirimports.net), CO, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), NZ/AZ/NM, all USA; Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Adnams, [www.adnams.co.uk](http://www.adnams.co.uk), Jeroboam Wines, [www.jeroboamwines.com](http://www.jeroboamwines.com), Farr Vintners, [www.farrvintners.com](http://www.farrvintners.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com) and Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), all UK; Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.sequinrobillard.ca](http://www.sequinrobillard.ca), Canada, and Metro Vino, [metrovin.com](http://metrovin.com), Alberta, Canada; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Meursault “Clos de la Baronne”:** (this is imported exclusively to the US market). This had just been fined, which always makes assessing a wine more complicated. There is good freshness to the restrained nose of petrol, apple and pear scents. The moderately concentrated middleweight flavors possess very good verve while exhibiting solid length on the clean and dry finale that would benefit from developing more depth. (88-90)/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** (50% of the blend is from Clos de la Baronne and the rest is from vines in En la Barre, Crotots, and Luraule plus the usual declassified juice from young vines Genevrières and Charmes). Not surprisingly, this is aromatically fresher with its very Meursault nose of acacia blossom, white orchard fruit and hazelnut-inflected scents. There is excellent cut and punch to the medium weight flavors that conclude in a more complex, clean, dry and chiseled finish. Lovely. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Clos de la Barre”:** While compositionally similar to the straight Meursault *villages*, there is even better freshness as well as an attractive hint of star anise. There is again excellent verve to the chiseled and strikingly textured medium-bodied flavors that flash focused power on the firm, complex, balanced and impressively long finish. While definitely early to be making such prognostications, this appears to be the best Clos de la Barre in several years. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault – Désirée:** (from the 1er Les Plures, which is a *lieu-dit* within Santenots). Cool and admirably pure aromas are comprised by notes of just sliced green apple, lilac, rose petal and an array of citrus elements. There is again excellent verve if perhaps not quite the same detail to the delicious middleweight flavors that also possess a beguiling texture, all wrapped in a sappy, caressing, dry and balanced finale. While this understated effort will certainly repay up to a decade of keeping, it should also be reasonably approachable young if desired. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Bouchères”:** (only two barrels produced). Lafon noted that this had not as yet been racked and it was no surprise to find it moderately reduced. On the palate however there is both good freshness and underlying tension with a highly refined, even sophisticated, mouthfeel to the medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the balanced, clean and quite dry but not really austere finale. This lovely effort also could use better depth but that is all but a given if it is allowed to age. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** This is also moderately reduced and revealing little save for a whisper of citrus character. More interesting are the beautifully textured bigger-bodied flavors that possess both more muscle and power that builds on the compact, serious and palate coating finish where a touch of bitter zest slowly surfaces. This beauty is a bit more tightly wound and a wine that will need all of a decade to reach its apogee. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Porusots”:** A discreet application of wood sets off the elegant array of white peach, floral, lemon zest and fennel scents. Once again there is excellent richness and volume to the focused and relatively powerful medium-bodied flavors that exhibit a fine bead of minerality that adds lift to the beautifully long finale that already offers excellent depth. This is classic Porusots in that it’s very much built-to-age so at least moderate patience strongly recommended. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** (from 40+ year old vines; Lafon indicated that it will be bottled mostly in magnum). A cool, pure and elegant array of exotic tea, lavender, lemon rind and green apple scents displays a wisp of star anise. The wonderfully refined and almost delicate yet exceptionally punchy medium weight flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also serves to buffer the moderately firm acid backbone on the focused, complex and beautifully persistent finish where a hint of bitter lemon arises. This pungently stony effort is **strikingly good** and absolutely worth your interest – note that my suggested initial drinking window is for 750 ml format. (93-96)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (a blend of fruit coming from 35+ and 75+ year old vines in Charmes Dessus, which is generally considered to be the best part; the parcel is situated directly below Perrières and abutting Combettes). A cool, pure and wonderfully elegant if distinctly restrained nose reluctantly presents its aromas of citrus, floral and spiced apple. On the palate this is almost a blend of the Genevrières and Perrières as there is some of each attribute on the middleweight flavors including minerality, intensity and focused power on the refined, balanced and highly complex finale. This is excellent and should age accordingly. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from two different parcels, a large one with 45+ year old vines that is only 50 yards from Genevrières and a second, smaller one with 20+ year old vines just above Charmes; 3 ½ barrels were produced in 2021). A ripe, airy and ultra-elegant nose offers up beautifully layered floral notes along with spiced pear, mineral reduction and lemon rind nuances. Here too there is excellent concentration and plenty of dry extract that imparts a textured mouthfeel to the intensely stony medium-bodied flavors that display firm supporting acidity on the overtly saline, moderately austere and hugely long finish. This is Zen-like in its sense of harmony and proportion, not to mention exceptionally classy. **In a word, brilliant.** (94-97)/2033+

**2021 Montrachet”:** A discreet application of wood sets off slightly riper yet still airy and cool beautifully layered aromas of white peach, apple, acacia blossom, exotic tea and a hint of crushed fennel. The detailed and amazingly well-focused broad-shouldered if not especially dense flavors display a more discreet minerality on the remarkably persistent and impeccably well-balanced finale where the only reproach is a barely perceptible hint of warmth. As one would reasonably expect, this is compact and very backward and a Montrachet that’s going to need at least a decade to unwind and probably fully 15 years of keeping to reach its full majority. A candidate for wine of the vintage. (95-98)/2033+

### Domaine Jean et Gilles Lafouge (Auxey-Duresses)

2021	➔ Auxey-Duresses "Les Bouttonnières"	white	(89-92)
2021	Auxey-Duresses "Les Hautés"	white	(88-91)
2021	➔ Meursault "Clos de Rougeots"	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Meix Chavaux"	white	(89-92)

Gilles Lafouge told me that 2021 "was basically tough from start to finish. We began with a heavy frost over three nights and ended with a problematic attack of botrytis. We picked from the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and had to stop on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> due to almost 50 mm of rain. Yields were all over the place but we were basically down 70% in white and around 40% in red. Potential alcohols were perfectly good at between 12 to 12.5% for the pinot and slightly better for the chardonnay at between 12.5 to 13%. We vinified the reds lightly using no whole clusters, but we still chose to do an eight day cold soak, which helped as the colors were very slow to emerge. After pressing off we did a very careful lees settling to be sure that we were barreling down with clean new wine. As to the wines, the reds are delicate but beautifully balanced and despite being on the lighter side, I believe that they will age extremely well expressly because they are so well-balanced. Given how tough the growing season was, I am actually very happy with the results." It's not hard to understand why as the Lafouge '21s are absolutely classically styled and given the modest prices for which they sell, these are wines to buy as they offer excellent value. Lafouge noted that the whites will be fined but not filtered. Lastly, due to the tiny quantities, there will be no Casse Têtes in 2021. (Jeanne-Marie de Champs, e-mail: [jeanne-marie@jmdechamps.com](mailto:jeanne-marie@jmdechamps.com), Beaune, France).

**2021 Auxey-Duresses "Les Hautés":** Cool and layered aromas include those of petrol, green apple and a variety of citrus nuances. The racy, dense and overtly mineral-driven middleweight flavors possess an appealing texture while exhibiting fine length on the youthfully austere and mildly rustic finale that possesses sneaky good length. Solid quality here. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses "Les Bouttonnières":** (from 3 parcels of vines of approximately 30, 45 and 65 years of age). Here too there is a note of petrol on the aromas of essence of pear and a suggestion of the exotic in the form of star anise. There is excellent intensity to the dense and even more mineral-driven flavors that conclude in chiseled, very dry and lightly austere finale. This is an excellent Auxey *villages blanc* that should nicely repay mid-term keeping. (89-92)/2027+

**2021 Meursault "Les Meix Chavaux":** (from 90+ year old vines). Lafouge noted that this had fallen naturally brilliant and would not be fined. A very Meursault nose of hazelnut, various white orchard fruit and a top note of acacia blossom gives way to impressively dense, indeed almost thick and borderline opulent, medium-bodied flavors that are round and seductive yet the slightly firmer acid spine maintains the balance on the complex, youthfully austere and solidly persistent finish. This is also a very good *villages* and worth your interest. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault "Clos de Rougeots":** (a new .92 ha monopole of the domaine; 2021 is the first vintage). Firm reduction and a touch of wood toast render the nose tough to evaluate. Otherwise, the rich and dense but attractively punchy middleweight flavors that also exude a subtle minerality on the balanced, complex and solidly persistent finale where the wood telegraphed by the nose slowly reemerges. This is lovely, not to mention both stylish and graceful. One to look for. (90-92)/2029+

### Domaine Nicole Lamarche (Vosne-Romanée)

2021	Côte de Nuits-Villages	white	(86-88)
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To have Nicole Lamarche's take on the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY, Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY, Wine House, [www.winesf.com](http://www.winesf.com), CA, A. Bommarito Wines, [www.abommaritowines.com](http://www.abommaritowines.com), MO, all USA; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), all UK; and Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Côte de Nuits-Villages:** (the blend contains about 30% pinot blanc and was raised in a combination of wood barrels and amphora). An interesting nose of melon, poached apple and a touch of lychee leads to nicely vibrant and rich middleweight flavors that conclude in a refreshing and lingering if not especially complex finale. To enjoy upon release. (86-88)/now+

### Domaine des Lambrays (Morey St.-Denis)

2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières” 1er	white	(90-93)
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets” 1er	white	94
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières” 1er	white	92

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to have Jacques Devauges' (formerly the *régisseeur* of Clos de Tart and Domaine de l'Arlot) take on the 2021 vintage. Specifically with respect to the whites, Devauges noted that he had changed the *élevage* policy as they will now be bottled in February rather than the prior September. This means that the *élevage* will now last 17 to 18 months rather than the former 12, which I believe will result in better wines; indeed it already has in the sense that the wines are noticeably less woody, a bit improvement in my book. Note that the whites are bottled under the Diam brand of composite cork. Note as well that the now in-bottle 2020s were also reviewed; they were bottled in February, 2022. (Weygandt-Metzler, [www.veygandtmetzler.com](http://www.veygandtmetzler.com), PA and Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com) and Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** (from a .29 ha parcel). An admirably subtle background application of oak easily allows the ripe, cool and pure aromas of white peach, citrus confit and acacia blossom to shine. On the palate there is first-rate intensity to the sleek and mineral-driven middleweight flavors that conclude in a markedly and clean but not really austere finale. If this can add depth, it should merit the upper end of my predicted range. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets”:** (from a parcel measuring .37 ha that was planted in 1947). Here too the supporting wood is admirably subtle on the more floral-suffused aromas of mineral reduction, green apple and crushed fennel. This is also quite sleek on the palate of the slightly denser medium weight flavors that possess focused power and even more evident minerality on the clean, equally dry and slightly more austere finale. This impressively persistent effort could also use better depth but the development potential is clearly present. (91-94)/2031+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** (from a .29 ha parcel). A whiff of petrol can be found on the ripe aromas of white orchard fruit, especially white peach, citrus confit and a vaguely honeyed character. The succulent, round and delicious medium-bodied flavors exude a refreshing salinity on the clean and dry finale where the only nit is a hint of warmth. This should be approachable young but also be capable of rewarding 8 to 10 years of aging. In a word, lovely. 92/2028+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets”:** (from a parcel measuring .37 ha that was planted in 1947). The more elegant nose is both cooler and more classic in style with its overtly floral-suffused aromas of apple, pear, spice and just sliced citrus. There is excellent energy and delineation to the more mineral-driven and gorgeously textured middleweight flavors that stain the palate on the impressively long and notably more complex finale. This is excellent, especially if you enjoy almost aggressively stony white Burgundy, and a wine that should repay a decade plus of keeping. 94/2030+

### Domaine Hubert et Olivier Lamy (St. Aubin)

2020	Santenay “Clos des Gravières” 1er	white	90
2020	➔ St. Aubin “Clos de la Chatenière Vieilles Vignes” 1er	white	92
2020	St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard” 1er	white	90
2020	➔ St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard Haute Densité” 1er	white	95
2020	➔ St. Aubin “Les Murgers des Dents de Chien” 1er	white	93
2020	➔ St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er	white	92

The ever-innovative Olivier Lamy is in the process of adding administrative space and a tasting room to his operation in St. Aubin. He described 2020 as “being hot, dry and precocious as we began picking on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August, and we were far from being the first! Yields were low, especially for the pinot as it clearly suffered more from the heat and drought than did the chardonnay, which seemed not to be especially stressed. For example, the yields were very low in pinot, in some cases basically single digits while the chardonnay came around 40 hl/ha. It's not often that you see quite that much difference between the two varieties. Not surprisingly given the conditions, this resulted in relatively high alcohols for the pinot but not the chardonnay. As to the wines, while the whites are not exactly classic, they retain good freshness and surprisingly good transparency to the underlying terroir. I think that they will make excellent old bones for those who enjoy cellaring their whites

as the balance is just about perfect.” I have to agree as there is several seriously good wines in the line-up and in particular, the Edouard Haute Densité. I would add that Lamy did not bottle his 2020 whites until July and August 2022, or an *élevage* period of 21 to 22 months, which is considerably longer than most producers today. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Pas Mal Portfolio, [mafeuer@mindspring.com](mailto:mafeuer@mindspring.com), NY/NJ, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, [www.ndcweb.com](http://www.ndcweb.com), GA, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA, The Source Imports, [www.thesourceimports.com](http://www.thesourceimports.com), CA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Farthinghoe Fine Wine, [www.farthinghoefinewine.com](http://www.farthinghoefinewine.com), Emile Wines Ltd., [www.emilewines.co.uk](http://www.emilewines.co.uk), Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk) and Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, [www.imperatrice.com.hk](http://www.imperatrice.com.hk), Hong Kong, Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong/Macau; Muyi Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2020 Santenay “Clos des Gravières”:** A fresh, cool and citrusy nose features ripe aromas of various white fleshed fruit. There is both a lovely sense of verve and texture to the medium weight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and saline-infused finale. This attractive effort could be enjoyed young or held for up to a decade. 90/2027+

**2020 St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard”:** Smoky aromas of green apple, pear and a subtle floral nuance are complemented by succulent, delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors that are sleek if not especially dense, all wrapped in a beautifully textured, focused, stony and lingering finish. In contrast to the Clos des Gravières, this is going to need at least a few years of keeping first as it is less forthcoming at present. 90/2027+

**2020 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** This is aromatically quite similar to the Chez Edouard but with more prominent citrus influence. There is notably better density to the equally beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors that flash excellent minerality on the solidly powerful, lengthy and impeccably well-balanced finale. Like the Gravières, this should be enjoyable young but have no trouble repaying up to a decade of bottle age. 92/2028+

**2020 St. Aubin “Clos de la Chatenière Vieilles Vignes”:** (worked entirely by hand as the vineyard has a 40% south-facing slope which ensures that it receives plenty of sun). There is just enough reduction to suppress the underlying fruit for the moment with the exception of a whisper of lemon zest. By contrast there is really lovely intensity to the precise, cool and restrained mineral-inflected middleweight flavors that terminate in a racy, clean and emphatically dry finale that displays only a trace of youthful austerity. This chiseled effort is excellent and akin to rolling tiny rocks around the mouth. 92/2028+

**2020 St. Aubin “Les Murgers des Dents de Chien”:** A hint of matchstick character is present on the elegant, ripe and airy aromas of citrus, wet stone, green apple and white floral scents. Once again there is excellent intensity and to the middleweight flavors that possess terrific mid-palate concentration along with the hallmark minerality, all wrapped in a hugely long and surprisingly powerful finish. **This is first-rate** and very much worthy of your interest. 93/2030+

**2020 St. Aubin “Derrière Chez Edouard Haute Densité”:** (from a vine density equivalent of 30,000 vines/ha). There is outstanding aromatic complexity to the elegant and slightly riper aromas of citrus peel, acacia blossom, spice and essence of pear. I very much like the impressive power and mid-palate concentration displayed by the refined and mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a citrus-inflected, clean and dry finish that delivers excellent persistence. This is **an absolute knock-out by any standard and a genuine ‘wow’ wine**. If you can find it, don’t hesitate! 95/2032+

#### Domaine Sylvain Langoureau (Gamay)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	white	86
2021	➡ Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune	white	87
2021	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Houillères”	white	89
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Perclos”	white	88
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Pierres”	white	88
2021	➡ Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne” 1er	white	93
2021	➡ St. Aubin	white	89
2021	St. Aubin “Les Champlots” 1er	white	90
2021	St. Aubin “Les Frionnes” 1er	white	87
2021	➡ St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er	white	92
2021	➡ St. Aubin “Les Sentiers du Clou” 1er	white	91



Sylvain Langoureau has been directing this 9 ha domaine since 1989 which he says is now farmed entirely organically. He briefly describes 2021 as a "disaster of a vintage for the quantities as most whites were off between 70 and 90% though the pinot, because bud break occurs later, was only off around 30%. We picked from the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and the fruit was clean and reasonably ripe as potential alcohols came in between 12 and 12.5%, which is just fine for the style of wine I want to make. Stylistically, 2021 is a vintage that used to be common but has become rarer since climate change. I would compare it to either 2014 or 2017 as the wines are super-fresh and super-refreshing. I love the vintage and especially for its transparency to the underlying terroir." Langoureau has again fashioned some really lovely wines and given the reasonable price points for which they tend to sell, these are wines to absolutely check out if by chance you are not familiar with them. Langoureau noted that his 2021s were bottled in August and September 2022. (T. Edwards Wines, [www.tedwardwines.com](http://www.tedwardwines.com), NY and Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY, both USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A markedly fresh, spicy and cool nose features notes of green apple and plenty of citrus influence. The racy and lightly stony flavors possess that lovely sense of underlying tension before concluding in a highly refreshing, clean and dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune:** (20201 is the first vintage for this wine). An almost imperceptible touch of wood is present on the equally cool and airy aromas of floral, essence of pear and a similar array of citrus nuances. There is equally good tension and minerality to the slightly fuller middleweight flavors that also conclude in a clean and dry finish though here there is slightly better depth. Lovely for its level. 87/2024+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Pierres":** There is a hint of petrol character to the appealingly fresh nose that is composed primarily by notes of rosemary oil, apple and floral nuances. There is both good volume and richness to the attractively vibrant and well-detailed medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a clean, dry and acceptably complex finish where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. This should drink reasonably well upon release if desired though it has the stuffing to also repay short- to mid-term keeping. 88/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Perclos":** Relatively firm reduction renders the nose unreadable today. By contrast, there is excellent verve and freshness to the almost painfully intense middleweight flavors that possess excellent cut while displaying just a bit more volume on the chiseled, very dry and balanced if equally rustic finish. 88/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Houillères":** A beautifully layered nose combines notes of petrol and resin with those of green apple, pear and discreet floral nuances. There is solid intensity to the sleekly muscular medium-bodied flavors that possess very good mid-palate concentration, all wrapped in an unusually powerful and driving finish. This well-made effort possesses fine potential for a Chassagne *villages* and is worth a look. 89/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (from 4 different *lieux-dits*). A very pretty and attractively fresh nose is comprised by notes of citrus rind, mineral reduction, white flowers and a hint of pear. There is both lovely detail and intensity to the stony middleweight flavors that possess good drive and a lovely salinity on the balanced and clean finale. I like the texture and while this could use better depth, a few years of keeping should help to address that. Worth a look as well. 89/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin "Les Frionnes":** Firm reduction completely dominates the fruit. There is by contrast a lovely sense of underlying tension to the less concentrated but finer medium weight flavors that conclude in a lemony, dry and somewhat angular finish that doesn't offer the same length as the better wines in the range. This may better harmonize with a few years of keeping but it's never going to be seductive. 87/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin "Les Champlots":** Here too the nose is quite firmly reduced. More interesting are the more concentrated, succulent and supple flavors that flash excellent punch that carries over to the dusty, chiseled and bone-dry finish. This is decidedly compact at present and I would advise holding this for at least 5 years first so it can unwind and hopefully add depth. 90/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin "En Remilly":** The ever-so-slightly riper nose consists of pretty citrus confit, floral and white orchard fruit aromas that are trimmed in hints of wet stone and wood. There is once again excellent volume and mid-palate richness to the caressing but energetic medium-bodied flavors that exhibit excellent length and notably better depth. This overtly mineral-inflected effort is excellent with the development potential to match. 92/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin "Les Sentiers du Clou":** Once again there is enough reduction present to blur the nuances of what appear to be mostly white orchard fruit and citrus. There is excellent mid-palate density to the caressing and decidedly punchy middleweight flavors that possess a highly beguiling texture that carries over to the sneaky long, balanced and notably dry finale. This too could use better depth but several years of keeping should help in this regard. 91/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne”:** A soft application of wood sets off distinctly cool but ripe and spicy white orchard fruit and floral aromas that reflect additional notes of citrus. There is impressive density to the generously proportioned and surprisingly powerful flavors that display good tension before terminating in a mouthcoating, impressively long and citrus-inflected finish. This is also beautifully textured and overall, really quite impressive plus it should amply repay a decade plus of keeping. 93/2031+

### Maison Laroze de Drouhin (Gevrey-Chambertin)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d’Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
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Philippe Drouhin’s daughter Caroline directs this small *négociant* operation called Laroze de Drouhin. The name is a play on words to suggest The Rose of Drouhin. She buys in fruit rather than must and her first vintage was 2007. Please see the section about Domaine Drouhin-Laroze in Issue 89 or the Burghound database for general 2021 vintage comments. (Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Averys Fine Wine Merchants, [www.averys.com](http://www.averys.com), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), and Anthony Sarjeant, [anthony@anthonysarjeant.co.uk](mailto:anthony@anthonysarjeant.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d’Or:** (from Brochon fruit). A fruity and vaguely exotic nose expresses its aromas of lychee, white peach and petrol. There is very good verve and detail to the delicious middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean and dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. (86-88)/2024+

### Maison Louis Latour (Aloxe-Corton)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet “Clos Poirier” Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles” Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault “Château de Blagny” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Goutte d’Or” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pouilly-Fuissé</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Rully</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Santenay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database to have the comments of winemaker Jean-Charles Thomas on the 2021 vintage. Specifically regarding the whites, Thomas noted that yields were even lower than they were in 2016, another heavily frost-affected vintage. (Louis Latour, Inc. Ltd., [www.louislatour.com](http://www.louislatour.com) USA, UK, France).

**2021 Pouilly-Fuissé:** A touch of post-bottling reduction flattens the underlying fruit though there is good intensity and freshness to the nicely delineated and voluminous flavors that exude a hint of bitter lemon zest on the long, dry and balanced finale. This delicious effort could use better depth but a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 89/2026+

**2021 Rully:** Cool and airy aromas include those of mostly white orchard fruit and a variety of citrus influences. Here too there is very good volume to the caressing but punchy middleweight flavors that deliver reasonable depth and persistence on the citrusy and dry finale. (87-90)/2026+

**2021 Marsannay:** Moderate reduction overshadows the underlying fruit at present though there is again good freshness and intensity to the delicious and inviting medium weight flavors that also offer reasonably good persistence but not quite the same depth so a few years of aging should be helpful. (87-90)/2026+

**2021 Santenay:** A distinctly cool nose combines notes of green apple and zest with those of pretty floral nuances. There is excellent density to the caressing and attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the youthfully austere and noticeably rustic finish. This should drink well young but repay mid-term keeping as well. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “1er”:** This is more floral-inflected if not quite as citrusy on the nose of primarily white orchard fruit scents. There is again excellent mid-palate density to the delicious and overtly stony medium-bodied flavors that deliver excellent length on the balanced, clean and dry finish that could also use better depth. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault:** Firm reduction renders the nose tough to evaluate and I would suggest a thorough aeration if you’re going to try a bottle shortly after release. More interesting are the caressing and equally concentrated middleweight flavors that conclude in a lightly mineral-driven, youthfully austere but sneaky long finish. Note that this is recommended but sufficiently compact that at least a few years of cellaring would be useful. 89/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** This is also quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing of interest. There is by contrast good freshness and almost painful intensity to the solidly concentrated medium weight flavors that possess a more sophisticated texture if not quite the same minerality on the youthfully austere, balanced and equally compact finale. This is also recommended with the same proviso of the necessity of allowing a few years of keeping. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** Once again, firm reduction masks the fruit. There is excellent mid-palate density, especially for a *villages*-level wine, to the relatively full-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also serves to buffer the less refined but more complex finale. This very dry and youthfully austere effort is excellent and worth considering. 90/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Château de Blagny”:** (a Latour monopole that gave only 10 hl/ha in 2021). In contrast to several of the prior wines, there is an attractive freshness to the layered nose of various citrus and floral scents that evidence more subtle aromas of pear, green apple and the barest trace of wood. There is fine richness and volume to the relatively muscular flavors that exhibit good power along with a certain refinement on the dry, long and balanced finale. This is a wine that typically drinks well young and the 2021 version should be no exception. 90/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** A discreet though perceptible dollop of wood frames the aromas of acacia blossom, hazelnut, citrus confit and white peach. There is again very good mid-palate density to the caressing but powerful medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a moderately austerity, bone-dry and sneaky long finish. This is sufficiently tightly wound to repay up to a decade of keeping. 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Caillerets”:** A restrained and distinctly cool array is composed by notes of mineral reduction, pear, citrus peel and spice that are trimmed in just enough wood to mention. The beautifully delineated middleweight flavors possess so much minerality that the mouthfeel is like rolling tiny pebbles around the mouth, all wrapped in a balanced, long and chiseled finish where a touch of youthful austerity progressively emerges. This is lovely and a wine that should also permit up to a decade of keeping. 92/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (100% from domaine vines in Aloxe). Thomas indicated that this had just been bottled and not surprisingly, there are notes of unabsorbed sulfur and reduction. More interesting are the dense but highly energetic, tautly muscular and mineral-driven middleweight plus flavors that flash excellent power on the compact, serious and built-to-age finale. Latour has a justly deserved reputation for this wine and the 2021 version should only add to it. 93/2031+

**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** Once again moderate reduction is enough to push the underlying fruit to the background. There is by contrast a lovely sense of tension to the rich and generously proportioned larger-bodied flavors that evidence impressive power on the succulent mid-palate that differs noticeably from the markedly citrusy and bone-dry finale that exhibits outstanding length. This will need to develop more depth but that is expected from a young grand cru. 93/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet “Clos Poirier”:** (from Puligny fruit; Thomas noted that this was protected by warming candles so the yield was about 30 hl/ha in 2021). Moderate reduction is enough to blur the nuances of the white orchard fruit. On the palate it’s immediately clear that the medium weight flavors don’t possess the same incredible density that many of the wines in the range possess though I underscore that they are by no means dilute, only less concentrated while delivering good if not special depth and persistence on the almost aggressively lemony and bone-dry finale. This is pretty enough but I suspect that the austerity and borderline aggressive citrus character of the finish may be more than some might appreciate. 91/2031+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet “Les Demoiselles”:** (bottled under the Diam brand of composite cork; only about 330 bottles will be produced in 2021). An ultra-pure and fresh nose of green apple, spiced pear compote and citrus blossom is also trimmed in just enough wood to merit mentioning. As one would expect from a classic Chevalier, there is an overt stoniness to the powerful broad-shouldered flavors that terminate in a superbly long and well-balanced finale. This very classy effort also needs to develop better depth but with a potential aging curve of between 12 to 15 years, that should reasonably occur. 93/2033+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from the Puligny side). Firm reduction. The generous and extremely rich, full-bodied and impressively powerful flavors are certainly seductive, indeed even opulent, but not heavy as there is ample acid support to maintain the balance on the focused, highly persistent, bone-dry and notably compact finale. Much like the Demoiselles, this too needs to develop better depth but that is all but guaranteed to occur given the potential 12 to 15 year aging curve. 94/2033+

### **Domaine Vincent Latour (Meursault)**

2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	86
2021	Bourgogne Côte d'Or Cuvée Héritage	white	86
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot" 1er	white	89
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	90
2021	Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	90
2021	➡ Meursault – Cuvée St. Jean	white	89
2021	Meursault "Clos des Magny"	white	88
2021	Meursault "Goutte d'Or" 1er	white	90
2021	Meursault "Les Grands Charrons"	white	88
2021	Meursault "Les Narvaux"	white	87
2021	➡ Meursault "Perrières" 1er	white	91
2021	➡ Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	white	91
2021	Puligny-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes	white	88
2021	St. Aubin – Cuvée Thomas	white	87
2021	St. Aubin "Frionnes" 1er	white	88

The always laconic Vincent Latour runs this 8.7 ha domaine that consists of 7 ha planted to chardonnay and 1.7 ha planted to pinot noir (see Issue 90 for the 2021 red reviews). The domaine has existed since 1972 under the name of Domaine Jean Latour-Labille et Fils. Vincent joined his father in 1998 and then in 2010 the name was changed to its present eponymous incarnation. Latour described the 2021 growing season as "difficult as I've ever seen as there was something of everything except hail so it wasn't for the faint of heart or the lazy. There was of course the devastating frost and because those vines were traumatized, you absolutely had to treat exactly when it was necessary or you were toast. We did try to protect certain parcels and as far as I can tell, they seemed to have helped but the word 'helped' is a relative term because it means losing 'only' 50% of the potential harvest rather than 70 to 90%! We finally began the harvest on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September and while the fruit was clean, there wasn't much of it. Yields were all over the place though it was generally ugly as the pinot was off 20 to 30% while the *villages* whites were off 50 to 70% while the 1ers were down between 70 and 90%. I did my usual vinifications though because the wines are so transparent I used almost no new wood. As to the wines, the reds are very traditional in style with good but not exceptional quality. By contrast, the whites are superb and 2021 is the best vintage that I have made in some time." Latour noted that that whites were bottled in December 2022. (Bowler, [www.bowlerwine.com](http://www.bowlerwine.com), NY, USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** There is just enough reduction lurking in the background to blur the nuance of the aromas of petrol and peach. The utterly delicious, racy and nicely detailed flavors terminate in a clean bone-dry if not especially complex finale. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Cuvée Héritage:** (from Les Dressoles and Malpoiriers). Cool and pure aromas include those of pear, apple and a variety of citrus nuances. There is slightly better volume to the succulent and energetic flavors that also conclude in a very dry, lemony and lingering if not especially complex finish. 86/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin – Cuvée Thomas:** (from the split-rated vineyard Village de St. Aubin; Latour noted that there was no frost damage because this sector is always late to begin its vegetative cycle). A hint of volatile acidity is present on the aromas of mineral reduction and white orchard fruit. There is better volume and mid-palate density to the medium weight flavors that display good richness before terminating in a lightly stony and agreeably dry finale. To enjoy young. 87/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin "Frionnes":** This is aromatically similar to the Cuvée Thomas with just a bit more citrus influence. On the palate though there is noticeably better size and weight with evident power and richness to the medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the clean and again, nicely dry finale. This delicious effort could use more depth so a few years of keeping should be helpful in this regard. 88/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes:** (from Les Houlières; 2021 will be the last vintage for this wine). A deft touch of wood frames ripe and fresh aromas of primarily acacia blossom and white peach. Here too there is fine mid-palate density to the attractively textured middleweight flavors that possess a seductive succulence that is balanced by moderately firm acidity on the clean and dry finale. This too could use better depth but more should reasonably develop over time. 88/2027+

**2021 Meursault – Cuvée St. Jean:** (from Les Vireuils, Les Crotots and Le Meix sous le Château). Fresh notes of hazelnut, petrol and white orchard fruit serve as a pretty introduction to the sleek, detailed and stony medium weight flavors that conclude in a linear, youthfully austere and very dry finale that offers better depth. This is a very good Meursault *villages* and worth considering. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Clos des Magny”:** Here the nose is suffering somewhat from post-bottling reduction and sulfur and thus tough to read. By contrast there is both good freshness and energy on the palate of the middleweight flavors that possess very good detail and particularly so on the clean, dry and bitter lemon-inflected finish where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. 88/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Les Narvaux”:** This too is suffering from the typical post-bottling effects of reduction and sulfur. There is even better freshness and energy if not the same mid-palate density to the lighter weight flavors that flash much more minerality on the lemony and slightly lean finish. This was not showing particularly well and how much of that is the wine and how much of it is due to the recent bottling is hard to say. Once it has been in bottle for a few more months it may be fine but I prefer not to guess. 87/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Les Grands Charrons”:** Firm reduction renders the nose difficult to evaluate. On the palate though there is again good freshness and verve suffusing the generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that terminate in a youthfully austere, clean, moderately dry and youthfully austere finale. Like several of the wines in the range, this would benefit from having better depth so a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 88/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from Guerchère, Ez Crottes and La Chapelle). Here the nose is fresh and pure with its combination of petrol, rosemary oil and various white orchard fruit scents. As one would reasonably expect, there is more volume and richness to the seductively textured flavors that offer just a bit more depth on the vibrant and attractively dry finale. This is a wine that could be enjoyed young as well as aged up to a decade. 89/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** A pungent nose of reduction and wood masks the underlying fruit at present. Otherwise, there is even better mid-palate density to the palate coating medium-bodied flavors that are rich to the point of opulence, all wrapped in a bitter lemon-inflected finish where the wood telegraphed by the nose slowly reemerges. Like the Morgeot, this too could reasonably be approached on the younger side but should also repay extended keeping. 90/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from both Dessus and Dessous). A restrained nose grudgingly displays notes of pear, petrol, acacia blossom and lemon confit. There is markedly better refinement to the energetic flavors that possess a lilting mouthfeel as the lingering if compact and youthfully austere finish is almost delicate yet quite linear. This attractive effort is going to need at least a few years of keeping to unwind. 90/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Poruzots”:** (Latour noted that he made only 4.5 barrels in 2021 as opposed to the normal 20). Heavy reduction flattens the fruit at present. Here too there is outstanding density as the low yields are very much in evident on the larger-bodied, powerful and tautly muscular flavors that conclude in a backward, moderately austere and dry yet impressively long finish. In contrast to several of the preceding wines, this is clearly in need of at least some patience. 91/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** An attractive touch of mineral reduction adds breadth to the more elegant aromas of citrus peel, lavender and spiced tea that are trimmed in subtle oak toast. There is an overt stoniness present on the succulent, mouthcoating and extract-rich middleweight flavors that possess an attractive sense of underlying tension, all wrapped in a lengthy if mildly austere finish. This is lovely and though it needs to develop better depth, that will almost certainly occur if given a chance. 91/2029+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Ladoix fruit). Here too there is a whiff of oak lurking in the background of the aromas of green apple, lemon-lime and white flowers. The vibrant and acceptably concentrated flavors also exude an evident minerality that adds a sense of lift to the youthfully austere and sneaky long finish that could also use better depth. 90/2029+



### Domaine Latour-Giraud (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault – Cuvée Charles Maxime	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières – Cuvée des Pierres" 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Narvaux"	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Champs Canet" 1er	white	(91-94)

Jean-Pierre Latour described the 2021 vintage as "one where the frost was beyond terrible. For example, in our holdings in Genevrières and Narvaux, we lost 95% of the potential crop. We put out warming pots in some parcels but if they did any good, our results didn't support that idea. I do my best to rationalize what happened by acknowledging that if we had, by chance, normal yields, the fruit would never have ripened. So on the one hand, it's easy to lament the absence of volume but on the other, if you're being honest, normal yields would have produced a lot of really bad wine. We picked between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> of September and brought in ripe fruit that averaged 13% in potential alcohols with excellent acidities. On average, we had only one to two bunches per vine so as I mentioned, volumes were the worst that I personally have ever seen. For that reason, we will not issue a Bouchères, Perrières or Poruzots in 2021. The good news in all of this though is that the quality is superb and especially so for those who love classic whites. They remind me of riper versions of 1981, which was also a vintage that was heavily frosted." I agree with Latour's take as the quality of his 2021s is indeed exceptional and while they won't be easy to find, they are absolutely worth searching out as every wine in the range is highly recommended. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Chemin des Vins, [www.chemindesvins.com](http://www.chemindesvins.com), MA, both USA; Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk) and Atlas Fine Wines, [www.atlasfinewines.com](http://www.atlasfinewines.com), UK; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from vines in Meursault). A ripe but cool mix features mostly notes of white orchard fruit and citrus. There is a lovely texture to the sleek, detailed and vibrant middleweight flavors that possess unusually good density before terminating in a beautifully long, firm and balanced finale. This is a very serious Bourgogne and possess **first-rate quality** for its level. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Meursault – Cuvée Charles Maxime:** (from the Domaine founders of Charles Giraud and Maxime Latour – the fruit derives from multiple *lieux-dits* that include Les Corbins, Le Cromin, Les Chevalières, Les Crotots, Les Vireuils, Les Pelles, Le Limozin and Les Malpoiriers; in 2021, blend also include 1er fruit from Bouchères, Perrières and Poruzots). This is aromatically similar to the Bourgogne but with more elegance as well as a suggestion of hazelnut. There is outstanding density to the powerful, palate saturating and stony medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere, balanced and beautifully long finale. This is excellent and a wine that should age accordingly. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Les Narvaux":** (Latour noted that he made two barrels instead of the normal 12 in 2021). A cool, pure and beautifully layered nose blends notes of green apple and citrus with those of spice and toasted nuts. The super-sleek, intense and mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors possess terrific length on the moderately austere, bone-dry and tightly wound finale. This is easily of 1er quality and highly recommended for a *villages*-level Meursault. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Charmes":** (from 35+ year old vines in Charmes Dessus). Pungent aromas of wood, reduction and a hint of phenolic character render the nose unreadable today. More interesting are the dense, powerful and almost painfully intense larger-scaled flavors that also soak the palate with sappy dry extract that does an excellent job of buffering the firm acid spine shaping the bone-dry, moderately austere and impressively long finale. This is extremely promising. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault "Genevrières":** (from 40+ year old vines from a huge 2.5 ha parcel in Genevrières Dessus). A cool, pure and elegant array of lilac, lavender, lemon rind and green apple scents displays a wisp of exotic spiced tea. Much like the palate impression of the Charmes, the unusually rich and voluminous medium weight flavors completely coat the palate with sappy dry extract which again buffers the firm acid backbone on the focused, complex and beautifully persistent finish where a hint of bitter lemon arises. This is at once lacy and refined yet powerful while also remaining extremely promising - it should amply repay a decade plus of cellaring. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Champs Canet”:** A slightly riper nose also displays a hint of phenolic character on the aromas of white and yellow peach, acacia blossom and a subtle application of wood. While not quite as dense on the palate, the medium-bodied flavors still possess very fine concentration along with evident power and energy that carries over to the balanced and long finish that flashes excellent complexity if not quite the same refinement, indeed it is borderline rustic, something that is most unusual for a prime Puligny 1er. This is however even more tightly wound and if ageworthy white Burgundy is appealing to you, look no further. (91-94)/2033+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières – Cuvée des Pierres”:** (from 50+ year old vines that see a bit more new wood though this means 33% rather than 25%; 1 barrel made rather than the usual 4 to 5 and as such, it will be bottled exclusively in magnum format). A reserved nose is a lovely marriage of mineral reduction, exotic tea, a plethora of floral elements and a very subtle application of oak. The palate impression is similar as it combines concentration, power and refinement along with an almost pungent minerality that adds lift to the lemony, youthfully austere and very tightly coiled finale that goes on and on. This is terrific and a wine that should age effortlessly and particularly so in large format. (93-95)/2036+

### Domaine Leflaive (Puligny-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(95-98)
2021	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(95-98)
2021	➤ Bourgogne	white	(87-90)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(96-99)
2021	➤ Mâcon-Verzé “Les Chênes”	white	89
2021	➤ Mâcon-Verzé “Le Monté”	white	90
2021	➤ Meursault-Blagny “Sous le Dos d’Âne” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(97-100)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet	white	(90-93)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Clavoillon” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières” 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles” 1er	white	(94-96)

As is usually the case, I tasted with director Brice de La Morandière along with *régisseur* (estate manager) Pierre Vincent. They noted that with their assorted acquisitions in Pouilly-Fuissé that they now exploit 55 ha directly and buy in the equivalent of another 5 ha for a total of 60 ha; they exploit 27 ha in the Côte d’Or. Like so many of their colleagues, they summed up the 2021 growing season in one word “difficult! The frost was terrible and shortly thereafter it was followed by one of the worst attacks of oidium that we’ve since perhaps 2004. And between the frost and the disease pressure, we had the smallest crop since 2012, which was badly affected by hail. We picked from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and while variable, yields were off about 60% and in particular, Folatières, Blagny and Chevalier-Montrachet were crushed. Once we got the fruit crushed and into the barrels, the vinifications were no problem except that the wines seemed thin, lean and highly acidic and we weren’t optimistic in the least. Happily, the malos, followed by a light fining, changed everything and the wines went from being hard to like to superb. It really just underscores how hard the potential of young wines can be to judge. Now we are much prouder of the wines as they are beautifully pure, energetic and transparent with everything that they need to age gracefully for as long as anyone would reasonably care to keep them.” I couldn’t agree more as the Leflaive 2021s are brilliant and the Montrachet could well be the wine of the vintage. The other grand crus are certainly wonderful as well but don’t ignore the Combettes and Pucelles as they are real standouts too. (Wilson & Daniels, [www.wilsondaniels.com](http://www.wilsondaniels.com), CA, USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com) and Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Mâcon-Verzé “Les Chênes”:** (from a huge 3.5 ha holding). A wonderfully fresh and quite spicy nose reflects mostly notes of green apple, lemon rind and a suggestion of petrol. The racy yet rich and nicely concentrated medium weight flavors conclude in a markedly citrusy, clean, dry and sneaky long finale. Fine quality here for what this is. 89/2026+

**2021 Mâcon-Verzé “Le Monté”:** (from a holding of slightly more than 1 ha). This is also exuberantly fresh with its more floral-suffused array of mineral reduction and similar green apple scents. There is a bit more volume to the equally vibrant middleweight flavors that flash evident minerality on the finish that is clean, dry and long while offering just a bit more depth. This too is very good for the appellation and recommended. 90/2027+

**2021 Bourgogne:** (includes some declassified *villages* wine). A deft but still easily perceptible dollop of wood sets off cool, airy and attractively fresh aromas of various white orchard fruit and just sliced lemon. There is excellent volume to the medium-bodied and sappy flavors that coat the palate with dry extract on the beautifully long, balanced, dry and complex finale. This is an excellent and ageworthy Bourgogne and worth checking out. (87-90)/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from several different *lieux-dits*, 30% of which is from Bréance with major contributions from Les Tremblots and Grands Champs). An elegant, pure and more floral nose offers up its combination of green apple, prominent citrus and crushed fennel nuances. There is borderline painful intensity to the appealingly textured medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality, chiseled, balanced and long finish that is quite dry but not really austere. This is an excellent Puligny *villages* that is also worth strong consideration. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “Sous le Dos d’Âne”:** (from a 1.3 ha holding). Soft reduction shaves the top notes from the otherwise pretty nose that is composed by notes of pear, acacia blossom and lemon rind. There is more volume and richness as well as a bit more minerality to the beautifully textured and graceful medium weight flavors that tighten up on the focused, indeed even linear and lingering finish that is impeccably well-balanced. Lovely juice with the potential to match. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clavoillon”:** (Leflaive is the largest holder of Clavoillon with a whopping 4.8 ha holding that averages 40+ years of age). Here the reduction is sufficient to overshadow the fruit. There is even better volume to the sleek and delicious middleweight flavors that are less mineral-driven but more powerful and slightly more persistent and bone-dry finish that is also exceptionally well-balanced. This is excellent and I would go so far as to observe that it’s the best vintage for the Clavoillon in a long time. It is typically considered to be less interesting than the other 1ers (and not without reason) in the Leflaive portfolio and while it doesn’t surpass them in 2021, it is most impressive nonetheless. (92-94)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières”:** (from 3 separate parcels). A ripe and ever-so-vaguely exotic nose is comprised by notes of white peach, melon, acacia blossom and a whiff of grapefruit, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The ultra-sleek, cool and refined medium-bodied flavors deliver outstanding depth and length on the overtly mineral-inflected, dry, clean and beautifully focused finale. This is a really lovely wine and while it will need to add depth as it ages, that should not present an issue. (92-95)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a .7 ha holding of 35 to 40-year-old vines). Here too subtle wood influence can be found on the exceptionally floral-suffused nose of essence of pear, spice and a variety of citrus elements. There is both good size and richness to the solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that display the hallmark refinement and liting quality while deliver superb punch on the even longer, balanced and very classy finish. This stylish effort is pretty much textbook Combettes and should age like one as well. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** (from two very large parcels of vines totaling over 3 ha). Firm reduction and a whiff of oak dominate the nose at present. Much more interesting are the beautifully textured, racy and detailed medium weight flavors that also possess a highly sophisticated mouthfeel while exhibiting stunningly good length on the bitter zest-inflected finish that goes on and on. This is terrific and easily delivers grand cru quality. (94-96)/2033+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 45+ year old vines, which are the oldest of the Domaine). A trace of reduction isn’t sufficient to materially reduce the appeal of the honeysuckle, citrus confit and softly spiced aromas that are also trimmed in just enough wood to merit pointing out. The medium-bodied flavors aren’t necessarily finer than those of the Pucelles though they do possess more power and weight while retaining a beguilingly silky texture as well as excellent complexity on the strikingly long, balanced and Zen-like finale. This is a very serious and moderately austere BBM that is very clearly built to repay long-term keeping. In a word, superb. (95-98)/2026+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 3 different parcels, two on the Chassagne side and the third in the Puligny sector that is near the border dividing the two communes). Once again a subtle but not invisible application of wood frames cool and ripe aromas of green apple, acacia blossom, petrol and airy zest-tinged nuances. Interestingly, the middleweight flavors aren’t quite as dense as those of the Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet yet the intensity is even higher, indeed it’s almost painful, while flashing impressive power on the gorgeously complex, sneaky long and equally well-balanced finale. This is also stunning but patience required. (95-98)/2036+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** Here the almost unbelievably complex nose is more restrained than that of the Bâtard with its pure aromas of lilac, rose petal, lavender, spiced pear, exotic tea and lemon confit. There is excellent richness and outstanding volume to the wonderfully textured and highly sophisticated flavors that are also blessed with an abundance of dry extract that buffers the very firm acid backbone on the explosively long and palate staining finish where the minerality is so prominent that it’s like rolling small rocks around the mouth. This beautifully balanced and focused effort is potentially one of the genuinely great examples of the Leflaive Chevalier, which given the absolutely stellar track record of one of Burgundy’s most iconic white wines, is really saying something. If you can find it, don’t hesitate though note well that patience is be firm necessity. (96-99)/2036+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from a small .08 ha parcel on the Chassagne side worked only by horse). Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to fairly assess. By contrast, there is excellent freshness as well as more size, weight and mid-palate concentration if less obvious minerality to the big-bodied, powerful and palate soaking flavors that conclude in a bone-dry, hugely long and balanced if decidedly compact, austere and chiseled finale. This is seriously impressive and a classically styled Montrachet that will age for as long as anyone would reasonably care to. In a vintage like 2021 where the yields were so low, this potential monument in the making will be unicorn-like in terms of availability (and may not be released by the domaine for another 5 to 10 years) but if you're ever offered the opportunity to purchase a bottle, don't hesitate to pull the trigger! (97-100)/2036+

#### Domaine Olivier Leflaive (Puligny-Montrachet)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Abbaye de Morgeot" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Pucelles" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Abbaye de Morgeot" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>

In his typically forthright manner, Franck Grux briefly noted that 2021 "gave us the smallest crop I have seen in the 30 years I have been here and that is true for both colors. The frost killed us and even though we had warming candles lit in our vines, they didn't do much good. Worse, the growing season was propitious for the development of mildew, oidium and botrytis and thus protecting the traumatized vines was delicate and precise. After having started and finished the 2020 harvest entirely in August, we began picking the 2021 harvest on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September and finished on the 29<sup>th</sup>. It's genuinely remarkable to have two vintages of high quality with fully one month of difference in picking dates! As I mentioned, the yields were absurdly low and even lower than two other very low yielding vintages in 2016 and 2012. The fruit was clean and with very good potential alcohols that mostly came in between 12.5 and 13% though a few wines were chaptalized about 0.5% degree. The acidities are firm but not really high as the malos had a very beneficial effect. As to the wines, I wasn't sure what to make of them at first but 2021 is one of those vintages that almost completely transformed during the *élevage* and now I quite like them. They're concentrated and highly energetic with good balance and terroir transparency. They remind me quite a bit of the 1992s at the same point in their development." See also the reviews for Maison Olivier Leflaive immediately below. (Frederick Wildman and Sons, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com) NY, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk) and Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.com](http://www.hhandc.com), all UK).

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Pucelles":** (from a .30 ha parcel in Pucelles proper). There is enough reduction to overshadow the underlying fruit. There is by contrast excellent verve and freshness to the utterly delicious and gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors that are at once rich, concentrated and seductive before terminating in an unusually power, serious and palate soaking finish. This is excellent and should age accordingly. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Abbaye de Morgeot":** (from La Chapelle). A very pungent nose is comprised by notes of prominent wood and very firm reduction. Importantly though, the reduction does not extend to the rich, concentrated and overtly muscular larger-bodied flavors that flash evident power on the punchy, sappy and moderately rustic finale. Despite being quite compact at present, I suspect that this will drink well after only 4 to 5 years of keeping. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from the Puligny side). A distinctly floral-suffused nose reflects additional nuances of spice, citrus, apple and more subtle oak influence. The delicious and vibrant if not especially dense flavors retain a lovely sense of precision that carries over to the clean, dry, focused and balanced finale that will need to develop more depth over time. (91-93)/2029+

**2020 Chassagne-Montrachet "Abbaye de Morgeot":** (from La Chapelle). Enough wood to remark upon sets off the ripe yet fresh aromas of rose petal, rosemary oil and various white orchard fruit scents. The concentrated big-bodied flavors possess a powerful but highly seductive mouthfeel while delivering excellent depth and persistence on the balanced finale. Like its 2021 counterpart, this should drink well on the younger side if desired yet have no trouble aging over the next decade. 92/2027+

#### Maison Olivier Leflaive (Puligny-Montrachet)

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne – Les Sétilles</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”	white	(89-92)
2021	St. Aubin “Les Champlots” 1er	white	89
2020	➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er	white	91
2020	➔ Meursault “Meix Chavaux”	white	89
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	89
2020	Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain” 1er	white	90
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”	white	89

See the section for Domaine Olivier Leflaive (immediately above) for more information regarding the 2021 vintage. Several wines from 2020 were also reviewed from bottle. It's important to point out that Leflaive's commercial policy to only release their wines after two years so that the wines have adequate time to recover from the bottling and better harmonize. (Frederick Wildman and Sons, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com) NY, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Wine Society and Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.com](http://www.hhandc.com), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A fresh and exuberantly spicy nose features mostly notes of green apple and zest. The delicious, vibrant and agreeably textured middleweight flavors possess a lovely texture while exhibiting better than average depth and persistence in the context of the genre, all wrapped in a bone-dry but not really austere finale. Solid quality here. 87/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne – Les Sétilles:** An equally fresh if less spicy nose freely offers up its aromas of apple, pear, white flower and a touch of orange peel. The mouthfeel of the medium weight flavors is also quite lovely while the lingering, balanced and equally dry finale is sufficiently tightly wound to repay a few years of keeping. This too is very good for its level. 87/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (from Les Combottes, Sous les Cloux and Les Pins). A trace of reduction is just enough to blur the nuances of the cool aromas of green apple and petrol. Once again there is a lovely texture to the racy and appealingly stony flavors that terminate in a very dry, citrusy and youthfully austere finale that comes up just a bit short. This is certainly pretty and it's possible that the recent bottling accounts for the lack of distinguished persistence. 88/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Champlots”:** (only 2 barrels produced versus the usual 9 in 2021). This also displays just enough reduction to blur the finer points of the overtly floral-inflected nose of citrusy white orchard fruit. There is both fine volume and richness to the vibrant middleweight flavors that exude evident minerality on the bone-dry, persistent and lightly austere finale. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from only 3 rather than the usual 9 different *lieux-dits*). Firm reduction dominates the fruit today. There is very good richness and mid-palate concentration to the moderately powerful medium-bodied flavors that offer both fine depth and persistence on the rustic and equally dry finale. This is a very good Chassagne *villages*. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Meursault:** (from 10 different vineyards). Here too the nose is quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing of interest. By contrast, there is a lovely texture to the medium weight flavors thanks to the abundance of sappy dry extract, all wrapped in a lightly stony, dry and powerful finish where a touch of wood appears. This is worth considering. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from every *lieu-dit* in Puligny except for Trézín and Charmes). A deft touch of wood surrounds the cool nose of white orchard fruit and acacia blossom aromas. There is fine richness and subtle minerality present on the round, energetic and delicious flavors that possess fine depth and length on the impeccably well-balanced finale. This is a very good Puligny *villages* that is also worth considering. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** A fresh, ripe, elegant and quite floral nose evidences hints of green apple, pear and discreet spice and acacia blossom aromas that are trimmed in a hint of wood toast. The richer, fuller-bodied and mouthcoating flavors possess impressive concentration and power before culminating in a dry, linear and sneaky long finale that offers just a bit more depth. This too is very much worth considering. (89-92)/2029+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from every *lieu-dit* in Puligny except for Trézín and Charmes). Moderate wood influence frames the ripe and fresh aromas of mostly petrol, floral and essence of pear. There is both solid mid-palate density to the attractively vibrant flavors that possess a seductive texture while delivering fine length on the balanced finale. This does however need to develop better depth, which isn't necessarily an inconvenience as the cellar time should help the wood treatment better integrate. 89/2027+

**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** This is aromatically similar to the straight 2020 Puligny *villages* with just a bit more floral influence and less oak influence. Here too there is very good punch and mid-palate density to the slightly bigger-bodied flavors that flash very fine length where the only nit is a subtle touch of warmth. This well-made effort should both age well over the mid-term yet be reasonably approachable young. 89/2027+



**2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Gain”:** Once again moderate wood influence is present on the cool, airy and very pretty aromas that include those of various white flowers, crushed fennel and orange peel. The delicious and solidly intense middleweight flavors display good if not truly special persistence on the lightly warm finish that would also benefit from developing better depth. 90/2028+

**2020 Meursault “Meix Chavaux”:** Ripe yet cool, elegant and airy aromas feature notes of lemon rind, acacia blossom and a suggestion of hazelnut, all trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is fine volume and solid concentration to the attractively mineral-driven flavors that exhibit a touch of bitter lemon on the balanced and lingering finish. This is a lovely Meursault *villages* and worth a look. 89/2027+

**2020 Meursault “Charmes”:** This is ever-so-mildly exotic with its white peach, floral and lychee aromas that are also trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is a fine sense of energy to the attractively textured and well-detailed medium-bodied flavors that display a touch of minerality on the balanced and saline-infused finale. Like several of these 2020s, this too would benefit from developing better depth, but the necessary stuffing appears to be present for that to progressively occur. 91/2028+

### **Maison Benjamin Leroux (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault “Genevrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault-Blagny “La Pièce Sous Le Bois” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Romain “Sous le Château”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database to see Benjamin Leroux’s view on the 2021 vintage. Specifically with respect to the whites, he noted that he used no new wood for the *élevage* and that potential alcohols came in between 12.5 and 13% so there was no chaptalization. Leroux pointed out that he uses the Diam brand composite cork for all his whites (except for magnums) and bottles with 20 ppm of free sulfur. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Terroir Imports, [www.terroirimports.net](http://www.terroirimports.net), CO and Willette Wines, [www.willettewines.com](http://www.willettewines.com), NY, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), both UK; L’Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Hong Kong/Macau; Mui Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), Canada; Bibendum Wine Co., [www.bibendum.com.au](http://www.bibendum.com.au), Australia; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne:** An attractively fresh nose speaks mostly of green apple, petrol and lemon zest. The racy, delicious and appealingly textured middleweight flavors conclude in a lingering and bone-dry but not really austere finale. This is a lovely Bourgogne that should repay a few years of keeping if desired. 87/2025+

**2021 St. Romain “Sous le Château”:** (this was the least frost-affected of Leroux’s vineyards). A similar if more floral-suffused nose leads to plump and punchy flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the nicely detailed, moderately austere and sneaky long finale. This should also repay a few years of keeping but is sufficiently pliant to drink well young too. 88/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** (from 5 different *lieux-dits* that include Les Criots, Moulin Landin, Clos du Village, Les Millerands and Bois de Blagny and, by exception in 2021, the parcel of Narvaux). This is even more floral-suffused, especially with acacia blossom nuances, on the distinctly cool aromas of citrus confit, petrol and hazelnut. There is fine richness to the attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that also exude a subtle bead of minerality on the seductively textured, focused and solidly persistent finale. This is lovely and a wine that should improve over the mid-term. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “La Pièce Sous Le Bois”:** Here there is just enough reduction to push the underlying fruit to the background so be sure to give this some air if you’re tempted to try a bottle young. The lilting and beautifully textured middleweight flavors flash excellent punch on the caressing, nicely dry, stony and bitter lemon zest-suffused finish. This could use a bit better depth but the aging curve is such that more should reasonably develop in time. 91/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** (from both Dessus and Dessous in 2021). A hint of matchstick character can be found on the otherwise wonderfully fresh, cool and elegant aromas of floral, citrus and exotic tea nuances. There is really lovely delineation and vibrancy to the medium weight flavors that display the hallmark minerality of a classic Genevrières, all wrapped in a refined, bone-dry and chiseled finish where a touch of youthful austere slowly emerges. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Les Charmes Dessus”:** This is the first wine to display more than a trace of wood and it's enough to push the aromas of white peach, citrus zest and hazelnut to the background for the moment. I very much like the lilting, even sophisticated, flavors that possess excellent delineation on the lightly stony and impressively long finish where the oak telegraphed by the nose slowly reemerges. Lovely though a wine that will need a few years to harmonize. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from Chassagne fruit; Leroux noted that this will be bottled only in magnum). Here too there is enough unabsorbed wood that it presently dominates the fruit and floral scents though I wouldn't expect it to last for long once the wine is bottled. On the plus side there is excellent richness and volume to the caressing and lightly mineral-inflected medium weight flavors that display good if not striking power though the length is seriously good on the citrusy, bone-dry and refined finale. This is a Bâtard of grace and balance that should age effortlessly in large format. (93-95)/2036+

### **Domaine Leroy (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne</b>	<b>Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>97</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to have Lalou Bize-Leroy's view of the 2020 vintage. As an aside, I was discussing what other vintages might reasonably resemble 2020 in white and I was surprised when she invoked “either 1933 or 1937. 2020 is a grand vintage in white.” Even as someone who co-authored a book on the last 170 years of Burgundy vintages, I did not expect that reply! (Martine's Wines, [www.martineswines.com](http://www.martineswines.com), CA, USA; Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerini.com](http://www.justerini.com), John Armit, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), FINE+RARE Wines Ltd, [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), UK and Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), all UK).

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Le Corton in Aloxe). A decidedly restrained, even grudging, nose reluctantly offers up its aromas of ripe white flowers, petrol, mineral reduction, lemon-lime confit and a plethora of spice and soft wood nuances. There is an almost painful intensity to the superbly concentrated and impressively powerful big-bodied and tautly muscular flavors that brim with dry extract that coats the palate while buffering the extremely firm acid spine on the marvelously persistent finish. Simply put, this is stunningly good and while it could be enjoyed on the younger side thanks to the abundance of sap, 12 to 15 years of keeping should eventually see this stunner of a CC at its apogee. A ‘wow’ wine par excellence! 97/2032+

### **Domaine du Comte Liger-Belair (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Nuits St. Georges “Clos des Grandes Vignes”</b>	<b>1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Nuits St. Georges “Clos des Grandes Vignes”</b>	<b>1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound searchable database for Louis-Michel Liger-Belair's view of the 2021 vintage. Note I revisited the now in bottle 2020 as well. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; additional distributors include Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselections.com](http://www.grandcruselections.com), NY, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA and USA Wine Imports, [www.usawineimports.com](http://www.usawineimports.com), NY, all USA; Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), UK).

**2021 Nuits St. Georges “Clos des Grandes Vignes”:** (from a .32 ha parcel). A whiff of the exotic can be found on the aromas of pineapple, lemon rind, pear and the barest suggestion of lychee. The delicious and vibrant medium weight flavors possess both good punch and a lovely texture before concluding in a bright, clean and dry, but especially austere finale. This is admirably dense and a wine that should repay a few years of keeping as well as drink well young. (89-91)/2025+

**2020 Nuits St. Georges “Clos des Grandes Vignes”:** (from a .32 ha parcel). A discreet application of wood is present on the slightly riper aromas of straw, white orchard fruit and petrol. The nicely dense and seductively textured, even opulent, middleweight flavors exhibit touches of bitter lemon and warmth on the sneaky long finish. This could also be aged to good effect for a few years or enjoyed young. 90/2026+

### Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair (Nuits St. Georges)

2021	➔ Bourgogne – Aligoté “Clos la Prieuré La Combe”	white	(86-89)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne – Les Languettes Grand Cru	white	(91-94)
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune “Clos du Village”	white	(87-89)

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database for Thibault Liger-Belair's views on the 2021 vintage. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk) and Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne – Aligoté “Clos La Prieuré La Combe”:** (this was macerated on the skins for an entire week, which is unusual as skin maceration is rarely used in Burgundy and when it is, it's typically only for a few hours). There is plenty of citrus influence to the aromas of white orchard fruit, petrol and spice. The plump but energetic middleweight flavors exude a refreshing salinity on the lingering finish where a hint of Chablis-like iodine slowly appears. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune “Clos du Village”:** (primarily chardonnay with a small amount of pinot blanc). A cooler and equally citrus-inflected nose features notes of green apple and white peach. The almost painfully intense medium weight flavors are still quite primary and particularly so on the clean, bone-dry and compact finish that is shaped by bright but not really drying acidity. A year or two of bottle aging should help this to unwind and become more approachable. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne – Les Languettes:** Moderate reduction is enough to overshadow the fruit at present. There is excellent volume and freshness to the intense and tautly muscular medium weight plus flavors that brim with minerality on the sappy and seductively textured finale that offers fine length on the moderately austere bitter citrus-inflected finale. This will certainly age over the medium-term but it's not so tightly coiled that it couldn't be enjoyed young. (91-94)/2028+

### Maison Frédéric Magnien (Morey-St. Denis)

2021	Marsannay “St. Jacques”	white	(87-89)
2021	Meursault “Les Peutes Vignes”	white	(88-91)
2021	Morey St. Denis “Les Larrets”	white	(87-90)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Meix”	white	(89-91)

For a detailed report on Frédéric Magnien's views of the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. See also the associated reviews from Domaine Michel Magnien immediately below. (North Berkeley Imports, [www.northberkeleyimports.com](http://www.northberkeleyimports.com), CA and Country Vintner, [www.countryvintner.com](http://www.countryvintner.com), VA, USA; Charles Taylor Wines, [www.charlestaylorwines.com](http://www.charlestaylorwines.com) and Yapp Brothers Ltd., [www.yapp.co.uk](http://www.yapp.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Marsannay “St. Jacques”:** There is a whiff of the exotic present on the aromas of lychee, white peach, citrus and green apple. The delicious, caressing and plump middleweight flavors offer reasonably good depth and persistence on the bitter zest-inflected and agreeably dry finale. To enjoy young. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Morey St. Denis “Les Larrets”:** (from a mix of 80% chardonnay with the remainder in pinot gris or, as the Burgundians call it, pinot beurot). Here the expressive nose is similar to that of the St. Jacques but with better layering. The delicious medium-bodied flavors possess slightly better verve while displaying good length on the moderately austere mineral-driven finale that also reflects a touch of bitter zest. (87-90)/2025+

**2021 Meursault “Les Peutes Vignes”:** (a little seen vineyard on the Volnay side of Meursault). There is an interesting note of honeysuckle on the aromas of mostly pear, apple and hazelnut. There is slightly better volume to the utterly delicious and richer medium weight flavors that don't offer the same minerality though do display fine length as well as better depth. This is lovely and very Meursault. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Meix”:** Cool and airy aromas include those of acacia blossom and various white orchard fruit scents that are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. I like both the texture and underlying tension of the delicious if not especially dense middleweight flavors that possess the sophisticated mouthfeel of a quality Puligny before terminating in a youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This is a quality *villages* and worth checking out. (89-91)/2027+

### Domaine Michel Mallard (Ladoix)

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Ladoix “Les Gréchons” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
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The father and son team of Patrick and Michel Mallard run this 12 ha domaine of which about 20% of the production is in white. To read Patrick's views on the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. Note that the Clos Royer and Corton-Charlemagne were not presented as Mallard noted that the yields in white were down fully 80%. (Amitié Wines, [www.amitiéwines.com](http://www.amitiéwines.com) CA and Zachys, [www.zachys.com](http://www.zachys.com), NY, both USA; Farr Vintners, [www.farrvintners.com](http://www.farrvintners.com), UK).

**2021 Ladoix “Les Gréchons”:** Cool, airy and pretty aromas include those There is excellent intensity to the overtly mineral-inflected medium weight flavors that possess good delineation on the youthfully austere, balanced and agreeably dry finale. This pretty effort could use better depth but that should reasonably develop if given a chance. Worth a look. 91/2028+

### Château de la Maltroye (Chassagne-Montrachet)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos du Château de la Maltroye” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Dent de Chien” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Vigne Blanche” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Santenay “La Comme” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

Jean-Pierre Cournut noted 2021 is “one of those unexpected vintages that turned out to be much better than you originally imagined that it might be. I say that because between the frost and a difficult, wet, gray and problematic growing season, it was frankly hard to be especially optimistic. We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and yields were all over the place. This is to say that the pinot was not far from normal but the chardonnay got seriously hammered at around -70%. Potential alcohols were also quite varied at between 12.2 and 13.6%. I vinified pretty much as always as the pinot was ripe and clean so there wasn't really any reason to do otherwise. Even so, I wasn't expecting anything special yet the quality is really quite good and moreover, in both colors.” I would agree with Cournut as 2021 is indeed a fine vintage for him and, as he correctly notes in my view, in both colors. With that said, while the reds are certainly lovely, several of his whites are absolutely brilliant, in particular the Bâtard, La Dent de Chien and La Romanée. Cournut noted that the 2021 whites were bottled at the end of October 2022. (Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY, Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY, Wine House, [www.winesf.com](http://www.winesf.com), CA, both USA; Enotria Winecellars Ltd, [www.enotria.co.uk](http://www.enotria.co.uk), UK; The Fine Wine Experience, [www.finewineexperience.com](http://www.finewineexperience.com), Hong Kong, China; Domaine Wine Cellars, [www.domaine.com.tw](http://www.domaine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** There is a hint of phenolic character (olive oil nuances) to the aromas of petrol, citrus and apple. The racy, delicious and appealingly textured middleweight flavors terminate in a very clean, bone-dry and lightly austere finish. This well-made effort will need at least a few years of keeping to unwind. Worth your interest. 87/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** Notes of rosemary oil, pear, herbal tea and a hint of petrol are trimmed in admirably discreet wood. Here too there is excellent energy to the well-detailed and even more appealingly textured medium weight flavors that also terminate in a bone-dry and more obviously austere finale. This possesses excellent development potential and is a wine that will definitely repay at least a few years of keeping. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “1er”:** (80% of the blend is from the *lieu-dit* Ez Crets within Maltroie and the rest is from Fairendes within Boudriotte). Like the Bourgogne, there is a whiff of phenolic character on the cool and airy aromas of green apple, petrol and floral wisps. There is first-rate intensity to the dense, rich and palate soaking medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a bone-dry and youthfully austere finale that displays very good depth and persistence. Once again, note well that this is presently tightly wound and a wine that should amply repay up to a decade of keeping. 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes”:** (from Chenevottes proper). This is aromatically similar to the Chassagne “1er” but with a bit more floral influence. There is even better density to the beautifully textured and quite dense medium weight flavors that possess a lovely inner mouth perfume while featuring fine cut on the mildly austere, complex and sneaky long finale that is also quite tightly wound. This is excellent but again, at least moderate patience advised. 92/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Vigne Blanche”:** This is the first wine to display any appreciable reduction so a thorough aeration should help. More interesting are the rich and relatively full-bodied flavors that flash good power and muscularity on the impressively long if slightly lean finale. This may well flesh out with time in bottle and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt. 90/2029+

**2021 Santenay “La Comme”:** (from yields of only 7 hl/ha). A very restrained, indeed grudging, nose faintly reveals its combination of mineral reduction and citrus scents. The super-sleek and borderline painfully intense middleweight flavors are like rolling tiny pebbles around the mouth while the cuts-like-a-knife bone-dry finish is markedly austere. The mid-palate density is most impressive as the single digit yields are noticeable. I would point out that this is sufficiently austere as to not make for especially interesting drinking young. 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos du Château de la Maltroie”:** (a monopole that is situated within Maltroie). An overtly floral-suffused and more expressive nose freely offers up elegant aromas of white orchard fruit, zest and a touch of spice. There is again excellent mid-palate density to the pretty middleweight flavors that exude evident minerality on the powerful, focused and superbly long finale. This is lovely and a wine that should generously repay extended cellaring. 93/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes”:** (from yields of only 7 hl/ha). A more restrained nose reflects a prominent mineral reduction character on the aromas of mostly white flower, citrus and exotic star anise. There is impressive density to the powerful yet attractively textured larger-bodied flavors that conclude in a notably stony, compact, bone-dry and moderately austere finale. This is also quite clearly built-to-age and I would recommend not touching a bottle for at least 5 years. In a word, lovely. 93/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée”:** (there is almost no topsoil in this particular parcel and the vines grow into fragmented, heavily fissured rock; from yields of 21 hl/ha). A softly spicy, fresh and overtly floral nose is comprised primarily of white orchard fruit aromas along with hints of exotic tea. The super-sleek and concentrated medium-bodied flavors flash good power and an almost aggressive minerality before terminating in a moderately austere, chiseled, linear and bone-dry finale that goes on and on. This is presently very tightly wound and like the Grandes Ruchottes, I would recommend not touching a bottle for at least 5 years. Terrific. 94/2033+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from yields of 27 hl/ha). A deft if easily perceptible application of wood sets off beautifully layered and fresh aromas of white peach, floral, spice and citrus confit. The medium weight flavors are not quite as dense but they possess strikingly good intensity and definition while delivering excellent power on the hugely long, balanced and equally tightly wound finale. This is **a stunning good Bâtard** that should age effortlessly. 96/2033+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Dent de Chien”:** (from vines planted in 1935 that yielded only 11 hl/ha). A cool, pure and airy array is composed by notes of green apple, white flowers and plenty of citrus elements along with pretty spice wisps. Once again there is excellent cut, punch and an almost aggressive minerality to the dense medium weight flavors that display excellent power on the superbly long finish that is also quite compact if not quite as linear. This is **also stunningly good** and highly recommended. 95/2031+

### **Château de Marsannay (Marsannay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay “Champ Perdrix”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>

Please see the section for the associated domaine of the Château de Meursault to see managing director Stéphane Follin’s take on the 2021 growing season. (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, USA; J & B and the Wine Society, UK).

**2021 Marsannay:** The appearance is curiously deep golden color yet there is good freshness to the aromas of petrol, citrus and apple that are trimmed in discreet oak. I like the texture of the utterly delicious middleweight flavors that display good if not special depth and persistence on the clean, dry and balanced finale. (87-89)/2026+



**2021 Marsannay “Champ Perdrix”:** Here the nose is similar if perhaps a bit more citrus-inflected. The sleeker but not denser medium weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the moderately austere, clean and equally dry finale. This could use better depth so a few years of keeping should be beneficial. (87-89)/2027+

### **Domaine Thierry et Pascale Matrot/Pierre Matrot (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault-Blagny “La Pièce Sous Le Bois” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Chalumeaux” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Romain</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>

Thierry Matrot, who joined his father Pierre at the domaine in 1976 and essentially took over in 1983, has now turned over the reins of this 24 ha domaine to two of his daughters (he has three), Elsa and Adèle; they joined the domaine in 2008 and 2010, respectively. I met this time with Elsa who related that 2021 was “complicated in the extreme. We had the severe early April frosts and for an entire month afterwards, the vines basically didn’t budge. We tried warming candles to protect a few vineyards but they didn’t really work. It was also rainy and cool with plenty of disease pressure, so it wasn’t easy to protect the vines when they finally did start growing again as it was hard to get equipment in the vineyards. We began picking on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and it was all but impossible to visually tell the difference between first- and second-generation fruit but there was if you tasted them. But that approach obviously can’t be used to decide what to pick! Yields were a disaster as we were off basically 80% and their will not be a La Garenne, Chevalières or Monthélie rouge. We chose to do a light vinification to avoid any green elements or inadvertent astringence. I confess to being really skeptical about the quality initially but as they have really come into their own and I like them quite a bit now, particularly for their terroir transparency and energy. My view on aging them is that the reds would best be drunk young for their fruit though the whites should offer mid-term aging potential. For the whites, we used no new wood at all for fear of unduly marking them. They too are beautifully transparent and are continuing to improve month by month so we are cautiously optimistic about them as well. I would say that the reds should drink well young while the whites will be better for mid-term aging.” I found the Matrot 2021 whites to be excellent and several of them are outstanding. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Cellarhand, [www.cellarhand.com.au](http://www.cellarhand.com.au), Australia; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), Connollys Wines, [www.connollys-wine.co.uk](http://www.connollys-wine.co.uk), Decorum Vintners, [www.decvin.com](http://www.decvin.com), Direct Wine, [www.directwine.co.uk](http://www.directwine.co.uk), Field & Fawcett, [www.fieldandfawcett.co.uk](http://www.fieldandfawcett.co.uk), and Handford Wines, [www.handford.net](http://www.handford.net), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (bottled under screwcap). Pretty and cool aromas include those of pear, apple, petrol and a discreet touch of wood. There is unusually good volume to the delicious middleweight flavors that deliver better than average depth and persistence on the clean and dry finale. This is lovely for its level. 87/2024+

**2021 St. Romain:** (mostly from Sous le Château). An attractively layered if slightly cooler nose features aromas of green apple, zest and a floral top note. The vibrant and equally delicious medium weight flavors flash plenty of minerality on the lingering, precise and lemony finish where a touch of wood slowly emerges. This bracingly dry but not really austere effort should repay 2 to 3 years of keeping but could also be enjoyed young. (87-89)/2025+

**2021 Meursault:** (from 12 different parcels from all over the village, including Limozin, Vireuils and Dressoles among others, which in 2021 includes the Chevalières; no new wood and to be bottled under screwcap). Here too a discreet touch of wood can be found on the pretty aromas of mineral reduction, zest and a similar floral top note. There is a bit more volume and richness to the solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on very clean, bone-dry and nicely complex and persistent finale. This is a quality Meursault *villages*. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “La Pièce Sous Le Bois”:** A vague suggestion of the exotic can be found on the aromas of white peach, acacia blossom and citrus confit. The succulent and seductively textured flavors also possess fine mid-palate density before terminating in a mouthcoating, compact and moderately firm sneaky long finale. This is lovely and understated in style. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from 4 different parcels in both *climats* aggregating .85 ha). Pear, apple and acacia blossom scents are trimmed in both hints of wood and toasted hazelnut. The wonderfully rich, round and supple flavors possess a highly seductive texture while exhibiting fine length on the more refined if slightly austere finish. This isn't especially dense but the bright citrus-tinged and firm acidity shaping the mouthfeel makes this highly refreshing. This tension-filled effort is also really quite lovely. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Chalumeaux”:** (from a 1.28 ha parcel that comprises about 20% of the entire vineyard). There is enough wood to merit pointing out on the smoky aromas of spice, petrol and acacia blossom. Once again there is a lovely texture to the vibrant, rich and nicely detailed medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a lemony and sneaky long finish that is quite dry but not really austere. This stony effort is a wine of finesse and balance that could use better depth so a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** This is aromatically similar to the Chalumeaux but with more floral elements. The sublime mouthfeel of the middleweight flavors is even finer if not quite as mineral-driven while delivering outstanding depth and persistence on the highly seductive, beautifully delineated finish. This more powerful than usual and it would be fair to describe it as powerful yet refined. Excellent. (92-94)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from a .52 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines located next to the famed Clos des Perrières that produced only 3 barrels versus 12 normally in 2021). A background hint of matchstick character is present on the cool and restrained nose of green apple, citrus and mineral reduction. The super-sleek and chiseled medium weight flavors brim with both dry extract and minerality before culminating in a highly compact, bone-dry and beautifully long finale. This impeccably well-balanced effort is very tightly coiled and it's what I call a 'buy and forget you own it' wine. (92-95)/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (a purchase of must from both Pernand and Aloxe). Moderate wood sets very fresh aromas of acacia blossom, spiced pear and green apple scents that are trimmed in hints of lemon-lime. There is good volume if not quite the same mid-palate density to the generous, sappy and seductively textured middleweight flavors that offer fine complexity on the mildly austere but impressively lingering finish. This could use better depth, which should develop. I would add that while this is certainly very good, it can't match the Perrières in terms of overall quality. (91-94)/2029+

#### **Maison Méo-Camuzet Frère et Soeurs (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Nuits “Clos St. Philibert”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>

See my comments for Domaine Méo-Camuzet in Issue 89 or the Burghound database for more information on the 2021 vintage. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, Jeanne-Marie de Champs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), NY, Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY and Boston Wine Company, MA, all USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, [www.therareandfinewinecompany.com](http://www.therareandfinewinecompany.com), Uncorked Ltd, [www.uncorked.co.uk](http://www.uncorked.co.uk) and Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Nuits “Clos St. Philibert”:** (a monopole of the domaine that contains a small percentage of pinot blanc). A fresh, bright and citrusy nose precedes energetic and equally bright middleweight flavors that conclude in a refreshingly dry and sneaky long finish where a subtle salinity adds to the appeal. To enjoy young. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Pernand and Ladoix). Here too the more restrained nose is cool, bright and citrus with its more complex aromas of green apple, white flower and crushed fennel. The broad-shouldered flavors are rich to the point of possessing a suave mouthfeel thanks to the abundance of sappy dry extract that coats the palate on the balanced, firm and moderately dry finale. This should easily repay a decade of keeping yet be approachable after only 4 to 5. (91-94)/2029+

#### **Meurges-Croses (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Mâcon-Uchizy</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pouilly-Fuissé Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Saint-Véran</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Viré-Clessé Vieilles Vignes</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

In 2013 Pierre Meurgey, after leaving Maison Champy, launched his label using the combined surnames of his parents. The idea, at least at present, is to focus on the production of white wines from Mâconnais as his mother was born in Uchizy. Meurgey purchases his grapes from friends and neighbors of the family. All the wines were bottled in July 2022 using the Diam brand of composite cork. For more information visit: [www.pierremeurgey.com](http://www.pierremeurgey.com) (Banville Wine Merchants, [www.banvillewine.com](http://www.banvillewine.com), NJ, USA).

**2021 Mâcon-Uchizy:** (100% stainless). Cool and restrained aromas include those of green apple, zest and a whiff of spice. There is both good density and vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the mildly rustic, clean and agreeably dry if not especially complex finale. 87/2024+

**2021 Viré-Clessé Vieilles Vignes:** (from “Le Mont” in Clessé and 100% foudre). In contrast to the Uchizy, this is firmly reduced so I would advise a thorough aeration. Otherwise, there is again very good density to the more finely textured medium weight flavors that also exude a subtle bead of minerality on the more complex, clean, dry and sneaky long finale. This is a bit more tightly wound though I suspect that 2 to 3 years of keeping should be about right. 88/2025+

**2021 Saint-Véran:** (from Leynes). Here too there is moderate reduction along with a whiff of wood toast. The medium-bodied flavors possess even better mid-palate density while displaying unusually good power in the context of what is typical for the appellation, all wrapped in a youthfully austere and lingering finale. This could use better depth but a few years of cellaring should address that. Worth considering. 89/2026+

**2021 Pouilly-Fuissé Vieilles Vignes:** (from Pouilly fruit with 10% new wood). A discreet application of wood sets off the slightly riper aromas of white peach, apple, acacia blossom and crushed anise. The sleeker, finer and better detailed flavors possess a really lovely texture that is enhanced by a subtle minerality that becomes more apparent on the balanced, lingering and nicely dry finale. Like the Saint-Véran, this too could use better depth but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur over time. Lovely. 91/2027+

### **Château de Meursault (Meursault)**

2021	➔ Beaune “Les Blanches Fleurs”	white	(89-91)
2021	Bourgogne – Clos du Château	white	86
2021	➔ Bourgogne – Terroir d'Exception	white	(89-92)
2021	Corton-Vergennes Grand Cru	white	(90-93)
2021	Meursault	white	88
2021	➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Charmes Dessus” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Clos des Grands Charrons”	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Le Limozin”	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Canet” 1er	white	(89-91)
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune	white	88

The Château de Meursault is under common ownership with the Château de Marsannay (see above), which also farms 9 ha of vines from the old Prince de Mérode. Managing director Stéphane Follin briefly noted that “the 2021 growing season started earlier in the Côte de Beaune than the Côte de Nuits so the frost damage was worse as, depending on the vineyard in question, we lost between 80 and 90% in white and about 60% in red. On top of this there was a great deal of sorting necessary and just as an example, from our vines in Perrières, Champ Canet and Les Grands Charrons we usually make around 75 barrels but in 2021, we made exactly 7! Despite this, the wines are actually quite good but it would be fair to say that they’re stylistically completely different from what we made in 2018, 2019 and 2020.” Follin also noted that the domaine will have a Corton-Charlemagne in 2022 as they now have a .15 ha parcel in En Charlemagne (Pernand). (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, USA; J & B and the Wine Society, UK).

**2021 Bourgogne – Clos du Château:** (from an amazing 8 ha parcel). An extremely subtle hint of wood can be found on the aromas of petrol, citrus and just sliced apple. The delicious and nicely vibrant flavors offer reasonable depth and persistence on the dry and slightly rustic finish. To enjoy young. 86/2024+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune:** (from Les Gollardes, Peuillettes and Goudelettes). Here too there is a hint of petrol character on the cool and decidedly airy nose of mostly white orchard fruit and lemon zest. The finer and more mineral-driven middleweight flavors conclude in a moderately austere and bone-dry finish that is noticeably firmer. 88/2026+

**2021 Meursault:** Once again there is a distinct coolness to the aromas of apple, spiced pear, acacia and a plethora of citrus elements. The intense and well-detailed medium weight flavors possess fine mid-palate density while the crisp, even crunchy finish flashes good length and moderate austerity. This could use better depth so a few years of keeping should be helpful. 88/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Le Limozin”:** (from a .53 ha holding). A discreet touch of nuttiness adds breadth to the aromas various white fleshed fruit and pretty floral scents that are nuanced by a hint of exotic tea. The beautifully textured flavors are borderline painfully intense while exhibiting excellent length on the clean, dry and chiseled finale that offers better depth. Lovely. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Clos des Grands Charrons”:** (a .85 ha monopole). A pungent nose is presently composed of moderate wood and relatively strong reduction. Otherwise, there is good power and density to the serious and strikingly intense yet seductively textured middleweight flavors that are unusually powerful, all wrapped in a bitter lemon, long, complex and beautifully well-balanced finale. This is potentially excellent for its level and recommended. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Bourgogne – Terroir d'Exception:** (from an abandoned quarry in an area abutting Meursault Perrières that was never classified). There is a discreet hint of mineral reduction to the smoky lemon-lime and white flower-suffused aromas. The rich, dense and again quite powerful medium-bodied flavors exude an almost aggressive minerality on the sappy, clean, dry and explosive finale. This isn't refined but it's certainly impressive in its fashion and while the default appellation is somewhat misleading, it's exceptionally rare to find a Bourgogne of this quality. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Beaune “Les Blanches Fleurs”:** A fresh, cool and airy nose consists of green apple, citrus, white flowers and a hint of wood. There is fine precision and intensity to the finely detailed middleweight flavors that exhibit ample minerality on the ever-so-mildly austere, crisp and notably dry finale. This isn't as dense as the Terroir d'Exception but it's finer. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from a 1.3 ha holding in Charmes Dessous). A more reserved and very Meursault nose freely offers up its aromas of hazelnut, acacia blossom and a layered mix of white orchard fruit, all of which is trimmed in a subtle dollop of wood. I very much like the texture of the solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors that soak the palate in sappy dry extract that also buffers the notably firmer acid spine shaping the serious, powerful, youthfully austere and built-to-age finish. This is excellent and worthy of your interest. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (from a 1.1 ha parcel). Hints of matchstick, white flower, exotic jasmine tea and an equally subtle application of wood give way to sleeker if slightly less concentrated medium weight flavors that are like rolling small rocks around the mouth on the chiseled, bone-dry and similarly built-to-age finale. This moderately austere effort is quite classy and a wine that should effortlessly repay a decade or more of keeping. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes Dessus”:** (from the upper part of Charmes). A broad-ranging nose features notes of roasted nuts, petrol, white flower, Asian style spiced tea, apple and a subtle but still easily perceptible application of oak. The dense, serious and palate saturating flavors possess evident power and excellent minerality on the sappy, powerful and strikingly persistent finish. This is quite impressive, indeed like the Perrières the word classy comes to mind. A beautiful Charmes. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Canet”:** (from a .58 ha parcel). Strong reduction dominates the underlying fruit at present. More interesting are the rich, round and generously proportioned medium weight flavors that offer reasonable depth but begin to lean out on the somewhat attenuated, dry and short finish. There is no particular reason that this won't better harmonize in time but even so, it's pretty awkward now. (89-91)/2029+

**2021 Corton-Vergennes:** Cool and pure aromas of just sliced green apple, citrus, white flowers and matchstick are present on the markedly restrained nose that is trimmed in enough wood to merit pointing out. There is excellent punch to the tautly muscular and intensely mineral-driven flavors that possess good mid-palate density before culminating in an overtly austere, compact and linear finish that is shaped by a firm spine of citrus-tinged acidity. This is impressive but it's presently short on depth though the potential aging curve here appears to be considering. (90-93)/2033+

### Domaine François Mikulski (Meursault)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	87
2021	Meursault	white	88
2021	➔ Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Meursault "Charmes 1913" 1er	white	94
2021	➔ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Meursault "Goutte d'Or" 1er	white	93
2021	Meursault "Limozin"	white	88
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Meix Chavaux"	white	89
2021	➔ Meursault "Clos de Pré de Manche"	white	89
2021	➔ Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	white	91
2021	Meursault "Tillets"	white	88
2021	St. Aubin	white	86

François Mikulski noted that 2021 gave us a "complicated growing season that began with a devastating frost but because we have long pruned late, we were somewhat less affected. With that said, some of the more precocious premier cru parcels definitely suffered damage. Thereafter there was strong disease pressure and in particular, the pinot was affected by botrytis. We began picking on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September and unusually, we harvested the pinot first and had to sort carefully. Both colors though came in with good potential alcohols of between 12.5 and 13.3%. We did a lighter, but not actually soft, vinification using no whole clusters as we were looking for substance but not necessarily structure. To that end, I like the results because while they are not monsters of concentration, they have very good flavor authority and depth. The reds should drink well young but have no difficulty aging over the mid-term. The whites are even better and should also repay mid to even longer-term keeping." I agree with Mikulski that his whites are indeed lovely, and they are worth checking out, and in particular the old vines Charmes is brilliant. Mikulski noted that the whites were bottled in December 2022 and January 2023. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; M.S. Walker, [www.mswalker.com](http://www.mswalker.com), MA/RI/NH, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Terroir Imports, [www.terroirimports.net](http://www.terroirimports.net), CO, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Elite Wines Imports, VA & DC, 703.339.8150, and Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, all USA; Enotria Wine Cellars Ltd., [www.enotria.co.uk](http://www.enotria.co.uk), Bordeaux Index, [www.bordeauxindex.com](http://www.bordeauxindex.com), both UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Hong Kong/China).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** (from vines planted in 1929). A classic aligoté nose is comprised by super-fresh notes of spicy and citrusy green apple. The is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the nicely concentrated middleweight flavors that conclude in a bitter zest-inflected, dry and clean finale that offers better than average depth and persistence. Worth a look. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** A slightly riper and equally fresh nose offers up notes of apple, pear and lemon rind. The succulent and rounded mouthfeel of the medium weight flavors contrasts with the bone-dry, punchy and youthfully austere finish that is slightly more tightly wound. This is also better than the average example of the genre. 87/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (from the tiny vineyard of En Jorcul that sits at around 400 m). Citrusy green apple scents precede delicious and almost painfully intense flavors that exude evident salinity on the almost aggressively dry and mildly attenuated finish that comes up noticeably short. This may better harmonize but I have my doubts and it's a wine that is probably best drunk young as I fear it may dry out. 86/now

**2021 Meursault:** (from Meix Chavaux, Limozin, Les Pelles Dessous, Moulin Landin and Chaumes de Narvaux, which means that much of this blend is from up slope vineyards). Notes of hazelnut, white-fleshed fruit and a floral nuance serve as an elegant introduction to the attractively textured and rich medium-bodied flavors that exhibit fine persistence if only average depth on the attractively dry, clean and precise finish. 88/2027+

**2021 Meursault "Tillets":** (from 6-year-old vines). There is a hint of matchstick character to the cool and airy, even wafting, aromas of mineral reduction, lemon-lime and an abundance of citrus elements. The racy and beautifully detailed middleweight flavors are akin to rolling tiny rocks around the mouth on the youthfully austere, linear and chiseled finish that stops just short of being slightly lean. 88/2027+



**2021 Meursault “Les Meix Chavaux”:** This is also aromatically cool, airy and quite pretty with its array of apple, pear and lemon-lime zest scents. I very much like the mid-palate texture of the lightly stony medium weight flavors that deliver fine depth and length on the youthfully austere and bone-dry finale. This is lovely and sufficiently tightly wound to benefit from a few years of keeping. 89/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Clos de Pré de Manche”:** A slightly riper nose reflects notes of mostly white orchard fruit and hazelnut. The more generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors possess excellent punch while displaying excellent length on the lemony and nicely dry but less austere finale. Lovely and worth considering. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault “Limozin”:** This is aromatically similar to the Pré de Manche save for being more floral-suffused. Here too the mouthfeel of the equally generously proportioned flavors is at once succulent but punchy, all wrapped in an almost aggressively dry, lemony and markedly austere finale that might be a bit too austere for some palates. 88/2028+

**2021 Meursault “Poruzots”:** (from a .72 ha parcel). There is enough reduction to push the fruit to the background so be sure to give this some air if you’re going to try a bottle young. Otherwise, there is excellent power and punch to the bigger-bodied and richer flavors that conclude in a robust, serious and borderline rustic finale that exhibits fine depth and persistence. At least moderate patience recommended. 91/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from Charmes Dessous, planted in 1930). Like the Poruzots, there is enough reduction to suppress the underlying fruit. There is slightly more refinement to the sleek and admirably concentrated medium-bodied flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the markedly compact, bone-dry and palate drenching finale that is even more tightly wound. Here too I would advise extending at least moderate patience. 92/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** The beautifully refined nose offers up spiced notes of citrus confit, apple and white peach. The rich and relatively full-bodied flavors possess the same refined mouthfeel telegraphed by the nose before concluding in a clean, dry, long and seriously complex finish. Like the Genevrières, this is very classy and immaculately well-balanced, indeed this is pretty much textbook Goutte d’Or. 93/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Genevrières”:** (from a .55 ha parcel). A ripe but fresh and refined nose displays notes of exotic tea, floral, pear and wet stone nuances. There is solid concentration to the well-delineated medium-bodied flavors that exude a very fine minerality on the citrusy, intense and lingering finish that is shaped by bright lemon-tinged acidity. This lightly austere effort is an exercise in class and grace that should amply repay extended keeping. In a word, lovely. 93/2031+

**2021 Meursault “Charmes 1913”:** Elegant and airy ultra-pure and fresh aromas include those of green apple, floral and a range of pretty spice nuances. There is outstanding density to the focused and powerful middleweight plus flavors that stain the palate with dry extract that also helps to buffer the intensely mineral-driven and chiseled finale that just goes on for minutes. This is at once powerful yet refined though note that it will not be an especially appealing early drinker. In sum, this is terrific and very warmly recommended. 94/2033+

### **Millemann Wines (Nuits St. Georges)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne</b>	<b>Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne</b>	<b>Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>

Pierre Millemann is an internationally known enologist that consults for a wide variety of wine producers in many different countries including several prominent domaines in Burgundy. Given his intimate knowledge of these domaines, and beginning with the 2017 vintage, he decided to make wines under his own label using fruit from biodynamically farmed vines. The idea is to do as little as possible though that doesn’t necessarily mean producing so-called natural wines. Production quantities are very low and he works only with grand cru fruit, both red and white. For example, there are generally two barrels made of the Corton-Charlemagne and one barrel each of the reds. The wines typically see around 18 months of *élevage* and the 2020 Corton-Charlemagne, reviewed below, was bottled in April 2022 without fining or filtration. For more information about the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (The Wine Forum, [www.thewineforum.org](http://www.thewineforum.org), USA; Mon Millésime, France, UK and Asia; Cave SA, Switzerland and Schwarzer Adler, Germany).

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Aloxe vines). A discreet touch of wood sets off the cool aromas of green apple, citrus, petrol and a Chablis-like hint of quinine. The intense and beautifully detailed medium weight plus flavors exude evident minerality on the decidedly linear, bone-dry and slightly lean finish that is shaped by strongly lemon-tinged acidity. This is going to need at least a few years to flesh out and unwind as it’s quite compact today. (91-93)/2031+

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Aloxe vines). Just enough wood to notice surrounds the vaguely exotic aromas of white peach, orange peel and spice. On the palate there is both good vibrancy and freshness to the dense and powerful medium-bodied flavors that possess a lovely texture, indeed it's nicely refined, while exhibiting plenty of minerality on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and solidly persistent finale that is borderline tannic. At least moderate patience will be necessary as this is also pretty tightly wound. Excellent quality. 94/2032+

### **Domaine François Millet et Fils (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune "Les Vallerots"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay "La Croix du Bois"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>

Many readers will recognize the name François Millet as he was for more than three decades the head of winemaking for Domaine Comte de Vogüé (see below). M. Millet launched a small *négociant* operation in 2017 with his sons Julien and Adrien and part of the reason for retiring from de Vogüé was so he could devote full-time to it. The goal is to find small allocations of fruit within appellations that are less well-known because they are often not declared and attempt to make them more well-known by declaring them. While the idea is to remain small, Millet expects to expand the range of wines, subject of course to the availability of quality fruit. Please see Issue 89, or the Burghound database, to have Millet's views of the 2021 vintage. (No importers provided).

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune "Les Vallerots":** Cool, pure and ultra-fresh aromas include those of pear, apple, a variety of citrus elements along with a floral top note. On the palate, there is unusually good richness for an Hautes-Côtes blanc allied with solid punch on the lightly stony, clean and lemon-tinged finale. Lovely for what this is. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay "La Croix du Bois":** A pretty array is comprised by the fresh essence of apple and lemon rind. The sleek, detailed and utterly delicious middleweight flavors exhibit an appealing sense of underlying tension and even more evident minerality on the appealingly dry, balanced and sneaky long finish. This should drink well young. (87-90)/2024+

### **Maison Lucien Le Moine (Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Chablis "Fourchaume" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet "Grandes Ruchottes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>NR</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>NR</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Goutte d'Or" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Les Plures" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Puligny-Montrachet "Les Chalumeaux" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

For more detail on Mounir and Rotem Saouma's general views of the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. As to their whites, they noted that the yields came in only between 7 and 9 hl/ha and that none of them had been racked or sulfured. Moreover, they will not be bottled until November 2023, or a full 27 months after the harvest, which is very unusual in modern Burgundy. This is not mere whimsey as their view is that a long *élevage* with no added protection allows anything that can oxidize to do so and thus fall out naturally rather than being filtered or fined out (or more concerning, to actually oxidize in the bottle). As a result, they note that the colors of their whites are always deeper yellow than would be considered typical, at least outside of peculiar vintages such as 2003. They explain that because their wines are expressly built to age and are always bottled with elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels (~1000 mm) that they should be decanted. Moreover, they argue that their whites need a minimum of 10 years of bottle age before they're ready so that if you want to try one before that, be sure to decant it. They further advise that between trying a bottle young or in middle age, younger is better. One other key aspect of the Le Moine whites bears mentioning in this discussion is the current divide in the wine world today between what are referred to as reductive and oxidative styles of winemaking. The vast majority of Burgundians are in the former camp but the Le Moine wines are in the latter. Note carefully that oxidative winemaking in this case is a bit of a misnomer because it does not mean that the process results in oxidative wines, only that the winemaking encourages oxidizable elements in the wine to oxidize and precipitate out, hence the name. This can occur during and/or just after the pressing or it can occur during the *élevage*, or in a few cases both. Mounir Saouma argues that premoxy could be prevented altogether if you take away the wine's ability to oxidize and that is what he is attempting to do with his totally non-interventionist approach. This is entirely laudable, and logical, so far as it goes. As long-time readers have seen me remark many times over the years, there is no free lunch in winemaking, meaning that every action, or inaction, has a consequence and that most wines are the way that they are

based on a series of winemaking compromises. Well, the compromise in this case is that the style of the Le Moine whites definitely appears oxidative yet the wines are stable. The important point for you as informed Burgundy consumers is to decide whether you like the Le Moine style as it is indisputably particular and as a natural consequence, controversial. But particular does not necessarily mean flawed or uninteresting, only that you may or may not like it. If you have never tried a bottle of the Le Moine whites, then I strongly suggest that you do. I all but guarantee that you will find the wines to be of high quality but that you may or may not be attracted to the style because the wines often have aromas that speak of cider and aged yellow orchard fruit. Some love those characters, and some do not, and this is part of what makes individual domaine styles so interesting. While not quite an exact comparison, if your taste in Champagne runs to the Selosses style, then you may well enjoy the Le Moine whites. I would also add that because none of the wines had been racked after completion of the malos, many thus exhibited lactic aromas and were full of gas. This of course complicates their evaluation and thus in some cases my projected ranges should be viewed as preliminary. However, in all cases that are not specifically excepted, my ranges assume that any odd aromas will dissipate before the wines are bottled. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA and Vintus, [www.vintuswines.com](http://www.vintuswines.com), NY, both USA; Berkman Wine Cellars, [www.berkman.co.uk](http://www.berkman.co.uk) and Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), both UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Chablis “Fourchaume”:** Ripe and fresh aromas include those of various white orchard fruit, zest and just enough Chablis character to be persuasive. There is a lovely sense of underlying vibrancy to the moderately concentrated middleweight flavors that culminate in a clean and bone-dry but not especially austere finale. Note that this is sufficiently tightly wound to repay up to a decade of keeping. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Chalumeaux”:** Pungent aromas of wood and reduction reveal little about the underlying fruit. There is excellent richness to the ripe and succulent medium-bodied flavors that flash touches of minerality and austerity on the attractively dry, compact and sneaky long finish. At least some patience strongly recommended. (89-92)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes”:** Very pungent aromas of phenolic character and reduction dominate the nose. The reduction can also be found on the palate, which is always a warning, though not fatal, sign. Long-time readers know that when I find reduction on the palate that I cannot in good conscious score the wine. I do though hasten to point out that this does not mean that the wine might not clean up, just that a wine in this condition cannot be accurately evaluated. Not Rated

**2021 Meursault “Les Plures”:** Layered and very pretty aromas of citrus confit, white flower and a mix of peach, pear and apple lead to rich, generously proportioned and vibrant medium-bodied flavors that possess a seductive texture, all wrapped in a dense, palate coating and citrusy finale. This very dry effort needs to develop more depth to merit the upper end of my projected range. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Meursault “Goutte d’Or”:** Here too the nose is dominated by notes of phenolic and reduction though there is good freshness and detail to the attractively textured medium weight plus flavors that are at once seductive but very punchy while delivering excellent length on the borderline tannic and tightly wound finale. (91-93)/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from vines in Pernand). Firm reduction. More interesting are the ultra-fresh and energetic larger-bodied flavors that display almost painful intensity that carries over to the pungently mineral-driven, citrus-tinged, bone-dry and compact finale that delivers very impressive length. This is very tightly coiled and a wine that should amply reward extended keeping. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** The malolactic fermentation had not yet finish and I never rate wines that are still undergoing their secondary fermentations. Not Rated

#### **Domaine de Montille (Volnay)**

2021	Beaune “Les Aigrots” 1er	white	89
2021	Bourgogne	white	(86-88)
2021	➔ Bourgogne “Clos du Château”	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	(89-92)
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(93-95)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault – St. Christophe	white	90
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Poruzots” 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er	white	(91-94)

2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Garenne" 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	St. Aubin "En Remilly" 1er	white	(88-91)

Etienne de Montille, and his *chef de cave* Brian Sieve, told me that 2021 "was more than just surprising, it was frankly impossible to imagine that we could obtain this kind of quality given the massive damage caused by the frost and subsequent waves of disease pressure. Moreover, the cryptogamic diseases hit the vines that were most weakened by the frost the hardest. Thankfully the second half of August and most of September were warm and mostly clement so there wasn't too much in the way of sorting losses. Maturities were actually quite good but not high as nothing came in over 13% in terms of potential alcohol. Acidities were also good but not especially high as the post-malo pHs came in between 3 to 3.55, which is textbook. Another positive is that as difficult as the growing season was, the vinifications were quite easy and this is true despite the much smaller than normal quantities. As to the wines, 2021 produced classically styled reds and whites with excellent tension, transparency to the underlying terroir and an immediacy of fruit that we haven't seen for a number of years." Note that there are three Maison de Montille whites presented in the section immediately below. Lastly, all the whites either are, or will be, bottled using the Diam brand composite cork. (Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY, NJ, Beaune Imports, [www.beauneimports.com](http://www.beauneimports.com), CA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Pioneer Wine Company, [www.pioneerwine.com](http://www.pioneerwine.com), TX, LA, Old World Wines <https://www.oldworldwineco.com>, CO, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Chambers & Chambers, [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), HI, Kelloggs Wines Selection, [www.kelloggswineselections.com](http://www.kelloggswineselections.com), NC, SC, all USA; Halpern [www.halpernwine.com](http://www.halpernwine.com), Canada; Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), all UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk) and Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), both Hong Kong; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong/Macau.)

**2021 Bourgogne:** Aromas of petrol, lemon-lime and pear lead to racy, delicious and fleshy middleweight flavors that conclude in a mildly rustic, clean and dry finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne "Clos du Château":** Here the expressive nose is similar to the straight Bourgogne but with slightly better layering along with a floral top note. There is better volume to the nicely dense and succulent flavors that also exude a touch of rusticity on the clean and dry finale. This is worth checking out. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from a 50/50 blend of Les Houillères and Champ Derrière). Notes of rosemary oil and petrol add breadth to the bigger-bodied and denser medium weight flavors that flash good power on the clean, bone-dry and youthfully austere finale that exhibits excellent depth. This is a fine Chassagne *villages*. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin "En Remilly":** (from a 1.8 ha holding of 60+ year old vines). An admirably discreet application of wood sets off hints of citrus, pear and soft mineral reduction nuances. The attractively textured medium weight flavors possess a caressing mouthfeel and good volume, all wrapped in a delicious, balanced and dry if only moderately complex and slightly short finish, though that may well change before it's bottled. (88-91)/2026+

**2021 Beaune "Les Aigrots":** (from a .50 ha holding). There is still some post-bottling reduction and sulfur that dominates the underlying fruit. The round, plump and quite fleshy middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality while displaying good if not special vibrancy on the bitter lemon zest-suffused finish that could also use better depth. Note that this could easily be enjoyed young. 89/2026+

**2021 Meursault – St. Christophe:** (from Les Narvaux, Casse Têtes and Petits Charrons). All but invisible wood frames the pretty and ripe aromas of citrus, pear, acacia blossom and a similar note of mineral reduction. Here too the medium weight flavors possess an attractive mouthfeel with good mid-palate fat that is buffered by the noticeably firmer acid spine that shapes the lingering, moderately austere and chiseled finale. This is an excellent Meursault *villages* and worth your interest. 90/2028+

**2021 Meursault "Poruzots":** Once again there is just enough wood influence to merit pointing out setting off the slightly riper aromas of essence of white orchard fruit, hazelnut and a whiff of smoky mineral reduction. As one would reasonably expect, there is more size, weight and power if not quite the same stony character to the bigger-bodied flavors that deliver excellent length on the balanced and lightly austere finale. While this should be more than capable of repaying a decade of keeping, it's not so backward that it couldn't be approached after only 3 to 4 years. 93/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Perrières":** (from a .45 ha parcel). Discreet notes of wood and petrol add breadth to the cool and pure aromas of citrus, acacia blossom, lilac, wet stone and just sliced green apple. There is almost painful intensity to the very tightly wound and almost aggressively mineral-driven flavors that culminate in a youthfully austere and strikingly long finale. This is pretty much a textbook Perrières of impeccable balance. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (this is 80% from declassified Les Chalumeaux with the remainder from Les Levrans and Boudrières). Slightly riper aromas include those of citrus confit, a range of floral elements and a hint of crushed fennel. The rich and generously proportioned middleweight flavors possess the natural class of Puligny while displaying fine length on the balanced, youthfully austere and sneaky long finish. This always boxes above its weight thanks to the very high proportion of 1er juice and the 2021 is no exception. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Garenne”:** A more restrained and more elegant nose is comprised by notes of cool citrus, green apple and wet stone. There is excellent delineation to the overtly stony medium-bodied flavors that possess notably better depth on the lingering, balanced, tightly wound and very dry finale. Lovely juice and one to consider. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** (from Ez Folatières). An overtly spicy and ever-so-slightly riper aromas include a whisper of the exotic on the cool citrus, Asian-style tea with jasmine hints. The laser-like, intense and utterly delicious medium weight flavors also exude a borderline palpable minerality that adds a sense of lift to the bone-dry, youthfully austere and strikingly persistent finale. This is excellent and I particularly like the balance though note well that it's going to need at least a few years of keeping before it will be reasonably approachable. 93/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from a .85 ha parcel purchased in late 1992). This is aromatically similar to the Folatières though with a broader array of elegant and wonderfully pure floral elements. There is first-rate volume and mid-palate density to the refined yet seriously punchy middleweight flavors that are like rolling tiny rocks around the mouth on the clean and equally long finale. This will need to develop better depth, but the balance and underlying material appear to be present for that to occur. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** This is even more floral on the slightly more expressive nose that features notes of Poire William, zest, green apple and soft spice nuances, especially anise. The round but almost painfully intense medium weight plus flavors possess a caressing mouthfeel along with almost as much mineral character as the Caillerets while delivering stunningly good length on the beautifully nuanced finale. This is very classy and somewhat surprisingly for a young Chevalier, not especially austere. With that said, this beauty is built to reward mid to longer-term cellaring. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a 1.1ha holding in Pougets). Here the nose is quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing of interest. More appealing are the dense broad-shouldered yet refined flavors that are built on a base of firm minerality while delivering excellent length on the crisp, chiseled and youthfully austere finale. This is a classically styled CC that is definitely built to age and a wine that's going to need at least 5 to 7 years of keeping first. (92-94)/2033+

#### **Maison de Montille (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Chablis “Fourchaume” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montagny “Les Coères” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pouilly-Fuissé</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

Maison de Montille has effectively replaced Maison DEux Montille Soeur et Frère. However, the idea is to continue to specialize in whites and is committed to buying only grapes and not must. For more information on the 2021 vintage, please see Domaine de Montille above. Note that the following wines either are, or will be, bottled under the Diam brand composite cork. (Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY, NJ, Beaune Imports, [www.beauneimports.com](http://www.beauneimports.com), CA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Pioneer Wine Company, [www.pioneerwine.com](http://www.pioneerwine.com), TX, LA, Old World Wines <https://www.oldworldwineco.com>, CO, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Chambers & Chambers, [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), HI, Kelloggs Wines Selection, [www.kelloggswineselections.com](http://www.kelloggswineselections.com), NC, SC, all USA; Halpern [www.halpernwine.com](http://www.halpernwine.com), Canada; Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), all UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk) and Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), both Hong Kong; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong/Macau.)

**2021 Chablis “Fourchaume”:** (from L'Homme Mort). A vague whiff of the exotic can be found on the aromas of white peach, lychee and classic Chablis scents. There is a lovely intensity to the focused and well-detailed middleweight flavors that brim with minerality on the chiseled, crisp and bone-dry but not really austere finale. This delicious effort could be approached young or held for a few years to good effect. (89-92)/2027+



**2021 Montagny “Les Coères”:** Here too there is a vague suggestion of the exotic with hints of white and yellow peach, jasmine tea and a similar whisper of lychee, all of which is trimmed in lemon rind. The sleek, delicious and caressing medium weight flavors are not especially dense, but I do like the texture, all wrapped in a clean, dry and stony finish that could use better depth. 89/2026+

**2021 Pouilly-Fuissé:** (from Solutré fruit). A very pretty, and much more floral, nose displays aromas of various white-fleshed fruit, spice and admirably discreet oak. There is both good volume and excellent cut to the succulent and rich medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a highly energetic, long and very dry finale that, like the Fourchaume, isn't really particularly austere. This lovely effort is a wine that could reasonably be approached young but has the stuffing to repay 5 to 8 years of keeping. 91/2027+

### **Domaine Alex Moreau (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Grandes Ruchottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>

Big changes have occurred at the domaine formerly called Bernard Moreau, as brothers Alex and Benoît have split the domaine and now have separate operations (see the reviews for Benoît below). Importantly in this context, while La Cardeuse will remain a monopole for the Moreau family, it was split between the brothers and as of 2021, there are two versions of it. And while it's a nuance, Moreau emphasized that the new domaine name will be Alex Moreau rather than Alexandre. In another change, readers should be aware that the labeling convention for the 2020s from Domaine Bernard Moreau will read “Vinifié par Alex Moreau” (vinified by Alex Moreau). Another important change is that up through and including the 2022 vintage, the domaine exploited 10.5 ha, but it is losing a long-term lease so as of the 2023 vintage, the vines under its control will total 5.8 ha. Moreau also noted that there is no Chevalier-Montrachet or En Remilly in 2021. I would add that 2021 is a particularly good vintage for the domaine and these are wines to seek out. (The Sorting Table, [www.thesortingtable.com](http://www.thesortingtable.com), CA, USA; O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Uncorked Ltd, [www.uncorked.co.uk](http://www.uncorked.co.uk), all UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Cool and airy aromas feature those of green apple, lemon-lime and a hint of petrol. The nicely rich and concentrated middleweight flavors possess a caressing, even seductive, mouthfeel while culminating in a clean, dry and sneaky long finale. This well-made effort could use better depth so a year or two of keeping should prove helpful in that regard. 87/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 3 separate *lieux-dits*). A more complex if moderately similar nose offers more in the way of white orchard fruit aromas that are trimmed in subtle wood nuances. There is fine mid-palate density to the delicious and appealingly intense medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by bright acidity on the bitter lemon-inflected finale that displays excellent length for its level. This too could use better depth, but more should reasonably develop. Lovely. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean”:** Pungent aromas of moderate reduction and wood overshadow the fruit. Otherwise, there is both good richness and an attractive succulence to the medium weight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and lingering finale where the wood displayed by the nose slowly reappears. This should drink well after only a few years of keeping yet be able to repay up to a decade of keeping. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Chenevottes”:** (mostly from Les Chenevottes proper plus a small amount of Les Bondues). Slightly riper aromas include those of both white and yellow peach, floral and a hint of rosemary oil. There is excellent mid-palate density to the rich and unusually powerful medium weight flavors where the richness is buffered by bright lemon-tinged acidity on the balanced and slightly more persistent finish. This too should be capable of repaying up to a decade of keeping. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie”:** A more floral and more expressive nose features notes of pear liqueur, lemon rind, green apple and soft spice nuances that are set up by an admirably discreet application of wood. The round and almost tender medium-bodied flavors possess a caressing mouthfeel along with equally good concentration while exhibiting fine length on the detailed finish that is also supported by lemon-tinged acidity. Like several of the wines in the range, this would benefit from having better depth but that should progressively occur. Good stuff and worth a look. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains”:** Firm reduction flattens the underlying fruit though there is excellent freshness and verve to the sleek, delicious and beautifully delineated flavors that terminate in a chiseled finale that is shaped by citrus-inflected and crunchy acidity on the firm and tightly coiled finale. Once again, more depth would be beneficial but given the extended potential aging curve, that is all-but certain to occur over time. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from the *climats* of La Cardeuse and Fairendes in a rough proportion of one-third to two-thirds). This had not been racked and it showed as the nose is comprised by notes of secondary fermentation, reduction and wood toast. The rich, generously proportioned and solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors flash good power on the moderately rustic and sneaky long finish. This is very tightly coiled and not particularly easy to judge so my range should be considered preliminary. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Grandes Ruchottes”:** (from a .345 ha parcel of vines planted in 1939). A reserved but wonderfully broad-ranging nose grudgingly reveals notes of mineral reduction, green apple, acacia, lemon rind and a whiff of oak. The racy and almost painfully intense medium weight flavors also possess excellent concentration as well as impressive power that carries over to the focused and hugely long finish. This **built-to-age beauty is strikingly good** and absolutely worthy of your interest. (92-95)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from the Puligny side). Here too there is subtle but perceptible wood framing the cool, airy and exceptionally pretty nose of acacia blossom, citrus essence, spice and a hint of jasmine tea. Even though the medium weight flavors are not as dense as those of the Ruchottes, they still display focused power and a lovely sense of vibrancy that also infuses the beautifully delineated and tautly muscular finish that goes on and on. This is also very much constituted to age over the medium to longer-term, which should help to develop more depth. (92-95)/2031+

#### **Domaine Benoît Moreau (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Charrières”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos de la Maltroie” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Cardeuse” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Fairendes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ St. Aubin “En Remilly” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>

Benoît Moreau, brother of Alex (see immediately above), chose to take his half of the former Domaine Bernard Moreau and start his own domaine farming 4.2 ha of vines. He notes that 100% of his vines, with the exception of a parcel of En Remilly in St. Aubin, will be located in Chassagne. To facilitate the production of his own wines, an impressive new cuverie was constructed near the just east of Chassagne in an industrial zone, barely in time for the 2021 harvest. As an aside, readers should be aware that even though he did release a few of the Bernard Moreau 2020s under his name, 2021 is the first vintage where he did everything from start to finish. He explained that most wines will see fully 18 months of *élevage* and be bottled using natural cork. The Bourgogne and Chassagne *villages* were bottled in February 2023. I would alert you that this is a very talented young man and his wines should be on your radar going forward as every wine is recommended. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Noble Rot, [www.noblerot.co.uk](http://www.noblerot.co.uk), and Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), all UK; and Souveraine Ltd, <http://www.souverainewine.com>, Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** A super-fresh nose is comprised by notes of citrus, green apple and a vaguely Chablis-like hint of quinine. There is excellent cut and vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and sufficiently firm finale to guarantee 4 to 7 years of keeping. Highly recommended. 88/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 6 different *lieux-dits*). A more complex and more floral-suffused nose offers up notes of rosemary oil, petrol and citrus zest. There is again excellent punch to the utterly delicious medium weight flavors that possess fine mid-palate density while displaying excellent length on the youthfully austere finale. This could use better depth but the underlying material appears up to the task and overall, this is potentially excellent for its level. 90/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “En Remilly”:** Citrusy, cool and airy aromas flirt with the exotic while displaying white orchard fruit and jasmine tea nuances. There is outstanding concentration to the rich and stony medium-bodied flavors that possess a gorgeous mouthfeel, all wrapped in an unusually powerful, serious and built-to-age finale. This is excellent and well worth considering. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Charrières”:** A distinctly cool and quite pretty nose combines notes of green apple with those of lemon rind, spice and a hint of petrol. There is excellent intensity and freshness to the attractively textured medium weight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and beautifully persistent finish. This is a very good Chassagne *villages* and worth checking out. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** (from Chenevottes proper). Pungent aromas of wood and reduction completely mask the fruit today. More interesting are the fresh and strikingly intense middleweight flavors that possess a sleek and notably finer, though not denser, mouthfeel while exhibiting excellent persistence on the bitter zest-inflected, tightly coiled and sneaky long finish. This is a Chenevottes of finesse and refinement that is also worth a look. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos de la Maltroie”:** Here there is a cool and appealingly fresh nose that is comprised by notes of citrus, apple and a hint of pear along with petrol. There is a lovely texture to the impressively intense and delineated medium weight flavors that are sleeker but not more refined while contrasting somewhat with the linear, focused and long but borderline rustic finish that could use better depth. This is certainly pretty but a few years of keeping should help it better harmonize. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains”:** An airy, layered and pretty array of floral, pear, apple and lemon-lime nuances are framed by a deft application of wood. The more refined and generously proportioned middleweight flavors possess a really lovely texture that is succulent but punchy, all wrapped in a balanced and beautifully persistent if tightly coiled finale that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. This could use better depth but the aging curve of a decade plus should easily allow that to transpire. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Fairendes”:** (from a .10 ha holding). A markedly floral-suffused nose freely reveals its cool and equally pretty accompanying scents of citrus, orange peel and crushed fennel. There is surprisingly good precision and stoniness, indeed the mouthfeel is akin to rolling tiny pebbles on the palate, to the medium-bodied flavors that offer first-rate persistence on the highly energetic and chiseled finish that is bone-dry but not really austere. Excellent. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Cardeuse”:** (from a .15 ha parcel that was planted to chardonnay; historically at the old Domaine Bernard Moreau, this was blended with the Fairendes). There is a very subtle whiff of phenolic character (olive oil nuances) to the aromas of freshly sliced pear and apple, along with a slightly earthy quality. The succulent but well-detailed medium weight plus flavors that are less refined but more powerful on the equally persistent and energetic finish that is even more tightly wound. Excellent potential but note well that patience is strongly advised. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes”:** (from a .17 ha holding; Moreau noted that this would not be sold until the 2022s are bottled). Fresh, cool and admirably pure floral, green fruit and petrol scents are trimmed in just enough wood to merit pointing out. The restrained and intensely mineral-driven flavors possess excellent volume and plenty of energy before really fanning out on the firm, balanced and ever-so-slightly austere finale that coats the palate with sappy dry extract. This **superb Grandes Ruchottes possesses terrific development potential** though it's clearly going to require at least 5 to 6 years just to get rolling while amply rewarding extended cellaring. Patience strongly recommended. (93-96)/2033+

#### **Domaine Caroline Moreau (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune “Grèves” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “1er” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet – Chambrées</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Santenay “Les Cornières”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>

Caroline Morey, who is the wife and winemaking partner of Pierre-Yves Colin-Morey (director of Domaine Pierre-Yves Colin-Morey) and the daughter of Jean-Marc Morey, was unable to attend the tasting this year so I tasted with Pierre-Yves Colin who presented his wife's wines. For more information about the 2021 vintage, please see the comments in the Colin-Morey section above. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA and Bertin Henri Selections, [www.bertinhenriselections.com](http://www.bertinhenriselections.com), FL, USA; A&B Vintners, [www.abvintners.co.uk](http://www.abvintners.co.uk), UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Santenay “Les Cornières”:** A very fresh nose offers up prominent aromas of petrol and spice that are trimmed in subtle oak nuances. The succulent and supple middleweight flavors exude a discreet bead of minerality that imparts a sense of lift to the bone-dry, youthfully austere and lingering finish where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. This could use better depth so 5 to 8 years of keeping should prove helpful in that regard. (88-91)/2027+

**2021 Beaune “Grèves”:** Here there is sufficient reduction present to mask everything but a hint of citrus character. There is slightly better volume to the markedly intense and well-detailed medium weight flavors that also conclude in a bone-dry, youthfully austere and chiseled finish that is just a bit finer. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet – Chambrées:** (from Le Chêne, Les Masures and La Bergerie). Cool and airy aromas are comprised by notes of green apple, lemon zest and a touch of rosemary oil. There is fine volume to the medium-bodied flavors that are at once caressing yet punchy, all wrapped in a lingering and delicious finish that would also benefit from developing slightly better depth. (88-90)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “1er”:** (from Champ Gains and Les Vergers). Soft wood sets off slightly riper though not exotic aromas of white peach, petrol and citrus confit. There is excellent density to the sappy and palate saturating medium weight flavors that are both denser and possess a more sophisticated mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the balanced finale where the wood expressed by the nose reemerges. Lovely with very good cellaring potential. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a parcel of ~.13 ha). This is also ripe but not exotic with a mix of white and yellow orchard fruit, jasmine tea and a floral whiff. The highly seductive and concentrated larger-bodied flavors are borderline opulent but the firm and bright citrus-tinged acid spine keeps the focus on the powerful and impressively persistent finale. This is potentially outstanding and a wine that should amply repay a decade plus of cellaring. (92-95)/2031+

#### **Domaine Marc Morey (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	93
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	86
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	89
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er	white	92
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er	white	90
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vergers” 1er	white	91
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “En Virondot” 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles” 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Referts” 1er	white	93
2021	St. Aubin “Le Charmois” 1er	white	90

Sabine Mollard forthrightly said that the quality of the 2021 was “as surprising as that of 2020 though for completely different reasons. In 2020, who would have thought that such a hot and dry growing season could produce whites that are so fresh, vibrant and refreshing? In 2021, who would have thought that such a difficult growing season that was cold and wet with near constant disease pressure could produce wines that are also fresh, vibrant and super-transparent to the underlying terroir? Not me anyway. However, one major difference between the two vintages is yield, as 2020 was moderately abundant without being excessive whereas in 2021 we were off between 60 and 75%. Worse, we threw out so much fruit that I was genuinely concerned that the wines were going to be acidic and green and potentially rot-tinged. As it turns out, I needn't have worried but that's easy to say now as I confess that I was not at all optimistic at first. Yet the *élevage* proved to be determinative from a quality standpoint and today, I am extremely pleased with the results.” Fans of the domaine should note that for the first time since the 2016 vintage, there will be a Bâtard as the vines were pulled out and replanted. Lastly, Mollard noted that the 2021 whites were bottled between August 2022 and January 2023. (Bertrand's Wines, [www.bertrandswines.com](http://www.bertrandswines.com), NY, Banville Wine Merchants, [www.banvillewine.com](http://www.banvillewine.com), NY and Ideal Wines, [www.idealwine.us](http://www.idealwine.us), MA, USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** A background hint of reduction blurs the nuance of the petrol and citrus zest-scented nose. The racy, delicious and nicely concentrated middleweight flavors possess a lovely texture that contrasts somewhat with the mildly rustic and agreeably dry finish where the citrus character of the nose resurfaces. 86/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin “Le Charmois”:** This is aromatically similar to the Bourgogne but with a pretty touch of floral influence. There is though a much finer texture to the more mineral-driven medium weight flavors that terminate in a sneaky long and very dry but not really austere finish. This is a wine that could be enjoyed young but also has the potential to repay 4 to 8 years of keeping. 90/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from Les Pierres, Blanchot Dessous, Les Lombardes and young vine 1er fruit in En Virandot). A classic Chassagne nose features notes of petrol, rosemary oil, zest and an array of white orchard fruit. There is lovely density to the attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that display more power if slightly less refinement on the lingering and balanced finale. This is a quality Chassagne *villages* where a few years of cellaring should help to add depth. 89/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** (from a .80 ha holding in Les Bondues). A cool, airy and very pretty nose combines notes of various white-fleshed fruit that is nuanced by hints of petrol, rosemary oil and a whiff of citrus. The succulent and attractively textured medium weight flavors that possess a bit more volume as well as better depth on the markedly dry but not short finish where a bitter lemon character is prominent. 90/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vergers”:** (from a .95 ha holding in Vergers proper). A more elegant and much more floral-suffused nose displays notes of green apple and just sliced lemon. There is excellent density to the caressing but decidedly punchy middleweight flavors that also conclude in a clean, dry and bitter citrus-inflected finish. This too would benefit from a few years of keeping in the hopes that better depth will develop. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from Ez Crottes). An expressive, ripe and fresh nose offers up a combination of white peach, pear and petrol trimmed in discreet hints of wood and a trace of the exotic. There is good richness to the delicious and generously proportioned middleweight flavors that possess plenty of palate coating dry extract before terminating in a sappy, powerful and slightly more tightly wound finish. 2021 is an ideal vintage for terroirs like Morgeot that tend to produce heavier and richer wines. Worth checking out. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from vines planted in 1988 in Vignes Derrière). A ripe yet cool nose also features notes of white peach, citrus zest, mineral reduction and a background touch of wood. The racy, intense and beautifully detailed medium weight flavors possess ample volume and richness while displaying fine depth on the balanced, markedly stony and strikingly persistent finish. This is also worth considering. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “En Virondot”:** (from a whopping 2.02 ha parcel, which effectively means that the Domaine owns 89% of the appellation; because the other owner does not declare their wine as En Virondot, Mollard jokingly calls her version as a “commercial” monopole). A noticeably cooler nose offers up airy notes of green fruit, lemon-lime, spice and a floral top note. There is excellent richness and mid-palate density to the opulent but punchy medium-bodied flavors that also possess a marked stoniness on the moderately dry bitter lemon rind-inflected finish. En Virondot rarely drinks especially well young but the concentration in 2021 is such that it should be approachable after only 3 to 4 years of keeping. 92/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Referts”:** This is also aromatically cool, elegant and airy with its mix of green apple, just sliced pear, white flower and more discreet petrol wisps. The moderately dense middleweight flavors possess a more sophisticated, if less mineral-driven, texture, all wrapped in a superbly long, balanced and slightly drier finale. This could use more depth but the potential to develop it is clearly present. Excellent. 93/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** (from a ~.20 ha parcel). In contrast to most of the wines in the range, this is sufficiently reduced so as to need a thorough aeration if you're tempted to try a bottle young. More interesting are the supple and highly energetic medium weight flavors that also possess a lovely texture though not the same mid-palate density of the Referts, all wrapped in a sneaky long finish where the complexity arrives just as the finish begins to die away. This is very classy and a wine that's going to benefit substantially from at least some patience. 93/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from young vines planted in 2016 and 2021 is the first vintage since). A highly restrained nose reluctantly displays notes of airy and again quite cool citrus, apple and pear-suffused aromas where a plethora of spice elements remain in the background. There is excellent delineation and reasonable richness to the tension-filled, racy and textured broad-shouldered flavors that culminate in a focused, textured and almost painfully intense finale. This compact effort possesses unusually good density for such young vines and should reward extended keeping. 93/2031+



### Domaine Pierre Morey (Meursault)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault “Le Tesson”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
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The always candid and direct Anne Morey, who has now assumed full control of the day-to-day operating duties of the domaine, pulled no punches with respect to 2021, declaring that the “growing season was seriously difficult if perhaps not quite as bad as that of 2016. We picked from the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and brought in highly variable yields and especially in chardonnay. In general though they were much lower; indeed one parcel came in at only 5 hl/ha. By contrast, the aligoté was basically normal and the pinot ranged from 15 to 25 hl/ha. Potential alcohols were actually pretty good as they varied between 12.5 and 13% so I chaptalized almost nothing. For the reds, I did a lighter vinification just to be sure to limit extracting any greenness or underripe elements. If there is a silver lining in all of this, an argument can be persuasively made that it was a positive that the yields were low because if not, the fruit would never have adequately ripened.” See also the *négociant* wines from Morey-Blanc reviewed below. Lastly, not all of the 2021 whites were presented due to the limited volumes. See also the *négociant* wines from Morey-Blanc reviewed below. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, The Source Imports, [www.thesourceimports.com](http://www.thesourceimports.com), CA, The Harvest Wine Company, LLC, [www.harvestwineco.com](http://www.harvestwineco.com), CO, Petit Monde Wine Merchant, [www.petitmondewine.com](http://www.petitmondewine.com), OR, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, all USA; Mr. Vertigo Wine & Spirits, [www.mrvertigo.wine](http://www.mrvertigo.wine), Greece; Swig Imports, <https://swigimports.com>, Bahamas; V.G. Agricola, [marcoantonio@demartino.cl](mailto:marcoantonio@demartino.cl), Chile).

**2021 Meursault “Le Tesson”:** Pretty, cool and airy aromas include those of pear, citrus, hazelnut and a whiff of acacia blossom. There is fine volume to the intense and attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a tightly wound, sneaky long, clean, dry and balanced finale. This does though need to develop better depth and while the aging track record for this wine is indisputably excellent, at present the wine seems almost simple. We’ll see in time. (88-91)/2029+

### Domaine Sylvain Morey (Chassagne-Montrachet)

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Le Charmois” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

The talented Sylvain Morey is Caroline Morey’s (see above) brother, and they are the children of Jean-Marc Morey who has now retired. Morey’s first vintage was 2014 and he continues to make really lovely wines from the same digs that his father did. With respect to the 2021 vintage, Morey noted that “we always prune late and we didn’t even start until the 25<sup>th</sup> of March! This meant that our pinot vines hadn’t started bud break when the early April frosts hit. As such, while our chardonnay yields were off between 30 and 70%, the pinot essentially came in with normal volumes. We picked from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of September and there wasn’t much sorting necessary as the botrytis wasn’t really a problem though we did throw out some underripe berries. Potential alcohols varied but most wines came in between 12 and 12.8% so I did a little chaptalization for those at the lower end of that range. I honestly wasn’t sure what kind of quality we would have but the wines changed so much during the *élevage* that I now quite like them. I used no new wood for the whites or the reds except for the Champ Gains blanc. The whites make me think of perhaps a slightly less well-balanced 2014 but the reds are hard to compare as there’s nothing really similar to them in the last decade.” Morey has crafted a fine set of 2021 whites and several of them are well worth your attention, in particular the Caillerets. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA and Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, both USA; Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com) and Christopher Piper Wines, Ltd., [www.christopherpiperwines.co.uk](http://www.christopherpiperwines.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A super-fresh and very aligoté nose is comprised mostly of spicy green apple and citrus where the latter is also prominent on the nicely detailed and concentrated flavors that conclude in a dry, clean and lemony finale. This is lovely for what it is and worth checking out, especially for the crunchy and refreshing fruit. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from La Bergerie, Petit Clos and Les Pierres). Morey indicated this had been aged in 15% new wood and there is only a trace of it on the fresh and cool aromas of rosemary oil, lemon-lime and petrol scents. There is impressive mid-palate density to the medium-bodied flavors that flash very fine length on the solidly complex and dry finale that is not especially austere. This is a quality Chassagne *villages* and worth considering. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 St. Aubin “Le Charmois”:** An equally discreet application of wood easily allows the notably floral-suffused nose of spice and various white orchard fruit scents to be appreciated. I very much like the sophisticated texture of the lightly stony and generously proportioned middleweight flavors that display excellent length on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and balanced finish. This pretty effort could use better depth though a few years of keeping should help. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Champ Gains”:** Here the wood treatment is a bit more prominent though still subtle on the cool, pure and fresh aromas of mostly pear, apple, lemon-lime and a hint of crushed anise. The rich, concentrated and caressing medium-bodied flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract while offers better depth and persistence on the equally well-balanced finale. This is a wine that should drink well young but age well too. Lovely. (91-93)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Caillerets”:** An ever-so-slightly riper nose offers up attractively layered aromas of both white and yellow peach, acacia blossom and crushed fennel that are framed by just enough oak to notice. There is outstanding density and volume to the concentrated and powerful medium weight flavors that possess a seductive mouthfeel, all wrapped in a chiseled, stony and sneaky long finale where a pronounced, even bracing, bitter lemon character emerges. I suspect that this citrus pith taste will slowly dissipate with age. In sum, this is excellent with fine aging potential. (91-94)/2029+

#### **Domaine Thomas Morey (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Baudines” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Embrazées” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “La Macherelle” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morqeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “La Truffière” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>

Thomas Morey (brother of Vincent – see below) described the 2021 vintage as one where “the damage caused by the frost was highly disparate. For example, our yields for the Bourgogne and various villages vineyards were almost normal while the 1ers were off between 50 to 75%. I chose to begin picking on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, or almost one month later than we started in 2020! Potential alcohols were perfect though not high at between 12 and 12.7% with very good acidities. Now that the wines are in bottle they are beginning to display their true potentials. I very much like the concentrations and terroir transparencies, indeed stylistically the 2021s remind be quite a bit of my 2014s.” Morey noted that his 2021s were bottled between August 2022 and January 2023. As the commentaries and ratings confirm, 2021 is an excellent vintage *chez* Thomas Morey, especially for the Vide Bourse, Embrazées and Truffière. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Cool and restrained aromas include those of green apple, zest and discreet floral wisps. There is outstanding intensity to the sleek, detailed and solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that deliver very fine depth and persistence. This is pretty tightly wound for a Bourgogne and should repay 3 to 6 years of keeping if desired. Worth a look. 87/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (from Le Champ Tirant). A touch of mineral reduction lurks in the background of the more floral and intense citrus-suffused nose. There is first-rate punch to the overtly mineral-driven flavors that conclude in a cuts-like-a-knife, bone-dry and highly refreshing finish. This isn’t especially dense and it could use better depth but the overall effect is really quite attractive. 88/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 7 *lieux-dits* with an additional ~15% of declassified 1ers). Here too there is a background touch of mineral reduction on the citrusy and petrol-suffused nose of white orchard fruit and rosemary oil. There is excellent delineation to the medium-bodied flavors that deliver fine length on the nicely dry and balanced but not really austere finale. This too is very good for its level. 89/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Macherelle”:** Here there is just enough wood present to merit pointing out on the more floral-suffused nose of mostly cool pear and anise. The moderately dense flavors possess excellent intensity as well as a lovely texture before terminating in a bone-dry and youthfully austere finale that is quite tightly coiled. This could use better depth but the development potential appears to be present for that to occur. 90/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** (50% from Les Bondues, 25% from Les Combes and the final 25% from Chenevottes proper). Prominent mineral reduction character is present on the aromas of green apple, just sliced lemon and a similar whiff of anise. The delicious medium-bodied flavors possess slightly better mid-palate density as well as noticeably better depth and persistence on the balanced finale. This is really quite stylish and a wine that should age effortlessly over the next decade. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Baudines”:** (from a parcel measuring .43 ha that was planted in 1969 and 1973). Once again the nose is cool, airy and in this case, quite elegant with its mix of lemon-lime, essence of acacia blossom and an array of white-fleshed fruit nuances. There is superb punch to the stony and litling middleweight flavors that flash excellent length on the very dry and youthfully austere finale. This could use at least a few years of patience and overall, it is classic Baudines, which is to say a wine of finesse and minerality. Lovely. 92/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Embrazées”:** (from a parcel measuring .60 ha). Not surprisingly given that the two vineyards abut one another, this is aromatically similar to the Baudines if perhaps just a bit riper. On the palate though there is noticeably more volume and richness if not quite the same refinement on the seductively textured and balanced finish that flashes focused power as well as outstanding length. This is one of the better examples of Embrazées that I have had from Morey and one that should also age effortlessly. 93/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from 15% Les Brussonnes, 35% Petits Clos and 50% Les Fairendes that total .7 ha). This is also relatively floral on the nose of petrol, rosemary oil, white orchard fruit, especially white peach, and discreet spice wisps. There is again excellent volume to the succulent and seductively textured medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also buffers the firm acid spine shaping the lemony and sneaky long finale. Here too, this powerful if not particularly refined effort should amply repay extended keeping. 91/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean”:** (from Rebichets). A restrained and very pretty nose features notes of various citrus elements, pear and a vague whiff of the exotic. Once again there is excellent intensity as well as a beguiling texture to the nicely concentrated flavors that aren't as powerful, but they are somewhat finer on the focused, balanced and lingering finale. This should drink well on the younger side as well as reward up to a decade of cellaring. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse”:** (Morey is one of only four owners). This is also aromatically restrained and even cooler with its aromas of citrus, spice and green apple. There is excellent concentration and richness to the generously proportioned yet nicely detailed larger-bodied flavors that, most unusually, culminate in a moderately austere, complex, balanced and impressively persistent finish. This is excellent though at least some patience would be beneficial. 93/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Truffière”:** There is enough reduction present to mask everything but elusive background floral hints. By contrast, there is excellent freshness and verve to the super-sleek and overtly mineral-driven flavors that are less powerful but noticeably finer, indeed the texture is quite sophisticated, while displaying superb length on the linear, moderately austere and finely balanced finale. This could use better depth but the development potential is clearly present. In sum, this **stunningly good effort is very classy**. 94/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 3 parcels measuring .1914 ha on the Chassagne side; 2 of the parcels measuring .1027 ha are owned and the third is leased). Pretty, airy and once again, distinctly cool aromas include those of green apple, spice, a plethora of floral elements and background citrus nuances. There is excellent intensity to the beautifully delineated medium-bodied flavors that terminate in a compact and almost tannic finale that exhibit strikingly good length. This is lovely but it's a wine that I would strongly recommend not touching for at least 7 to 8 years as it's very tightly wound. 94/2031+

### Domaine Vincent & Sophie Morey (Chassagne-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	93
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	86
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes	white	88
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Baudines" 1er	white	89
2021	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Caillerets" 1er	white	92
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Embrazées" 1er	white	90
2021	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot" 1er	white	91
2021	➡ Puligny-Montrachet "La Truffière" 1er	white	92
2021	St. Aubin "Le Charmois" 1er	white	88
2021	Santenay "Beaurepaire" 1er	white	87
2021	Santenay "Les Hâtes"	white	87
2021	Santenay "Passetemps" 1er	white	88

Vincent Morey runs this roughly 20 ha domaine and succinctly noted that 2021 was a "tough vintage for us and in both colors. We picked from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and brought in yields that were off between 20 and 40% in pinot and even worse at between 20 and 80% in chardonnay even though we did try to protect the parcels of Bâtard and the Morgeot. Thankfully there wasn't too much sorting required and most of what we eliminated was second generation fruit which obviously wasn't as ripe. With respect to the style of 2021s, the whites remind me a bit of 2016s with perhaps slightly more freshness and roundness, while the reds could reasonably be compared to either those of 2014 or 2017." Morey said that he bottled the whites between August and November 2022. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, William Gladstone Imports, [www.williamgladstoneimports.com](http://www.williamgladstoneimports.com), NY/HI, both USA; The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), [www.therareandfinewinecompany.com](http://www.therareandfinewinecompany.com) and Berkmann Wine Cellars, [www.berkmann.co.uk](http://www.berkmann.co.uk), all UK; Watson's Wines, 852.2606.8828, [www.watsonswine.com](http://www.watsonswine.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** Airy and cool aromas of petrol, lemon zest and apple are complemented by nicely vibrant and acceptably concentrated flavors that conclude in a mildly rustic, clean, refreshing and agreeably dry finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Santenay "Les Hâtes":** This is aromatically similar to the Bourgogne though with the addition of pretty floral wisps. The succulent but punchy middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the equally clean, dry and refreshing finale that offers average depth and persistence. 87/2024+

**2021 Santenay "Beaurepaire":** (from a parcel at the very top of the vineyard; in 2021, only 2 barrels produced vs a more typical volume of 11). Pungent aromas of reduction and wood overshadow the fruit. The caressing, rich and sappy though vibrant medium weight flavors exude a bracing salinity on the agreeably dry but somewhat short finale. This will likely mature rapidly so when opened, it will probably need a thorough aeration first. 87/2024+

**2021 Santenay "Passetemps":** Here too there is enough reduction to mask the underlying fruit. By contrast, there is excellent punch and freshness to the appealingly textured medium-bodied flavors that also culminate in a clean and dry if slightly short finale that is noticeably more structured. 88/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin "Le Charmois":** Very firm reduction reveals nothing so again, a thorough aeration should be helpful. The rich and succulent middleweight flavors possess a slightly finer texture that carries over to the lightly stony if slightly drying finale. This seems ripe so I suspect that the dryness is more related to the recent bottling than under ripeness and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt. 88/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes:** (from 5 separate *lieux-dits*). An expressive nose freely reveals prominent aromas of petrol, resin and rosemary oil. There isn't quite the same mid-palate density to the attractively vibrant medium weight flavors that offers better depth and persistence on a noticeably rustic finale. Note that this is sufficiently tightly wound as to need 3 to 6 years of keeping first. 88/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Baudines":** (4 barrels produced instead of the usual 25 in 2021). More elegant if more restrained aromas include those of white flowers, lemon zest and a suggestion of mineral reduction. I very much like the notably more refined texture of the mineral-driven middleweight flavors that also come up slightly short on the bitter lemon-inflected finale. A few years of cellaring should be beneficial as this seems mildly awkward at present. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Embrazées”:** (from a massive 4 ha parcel, 3.5 of which is planted to chardonnay and the remainder to pinot; Morey noted that in 2021 he made only 13 barrels vs his usual production of 90!). This is aromatically similar to the Baudines if perhaps just a hair riper. There is excellent intensity to the utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors that also exude evident minerality on the slightly better-balanced and longer finale. 90/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** (from Les Grands Clos and Les Boirettes). Very pungent aromas of firm reduction and wood toast reveal nothing about the underlying fruit. More interesting are the rich and attractively textured larger-bodied flavors that brim with sappy dry extract on the harmonious and sneaky long finish. Worth a look. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from Vignes Derrière). Elegant and exceptionally pretty aromas are mostly comprised by a variety of ripe white-fleshed fruit, acacia and lemon-lime nuances. The markedly finer but not denser middleweight flavors exude a subtle bead of minerality on the slightly more complex and persistent finale. This is a classic Caillerets with a really lovely texture that should permit it to be enjoyed young if desired. Worth considering. 92/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Truffière”:** A broad-ranging nose features notes of mineral reduction, acacia blossom, Asian style tea, zest and an admirably subtle application of wood. There is both a sophisticated texture and solid volume to the more obviously mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a compact, balanced and sneaky long finale. In contrast to the Caillerets, this beauty will need at least a few years of keeping to unwind. 92/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a parcel measuring .15 ha in Chassagne that produced one 350 L barrel in 2021). A highly restrained, even slightly grumpy, nose grudgingly offers up its aromas of petrol, just sliced apple and a discreet if perceptible dollop of wood toast. There is a beguiling sense of underlying tension to the utterly delicious medium weight flavors that aren't as powerful as usual though they are more refined while displaying slightly better depth and persistence on the bone-dry and youthfully austere finale. As one would reasonably expect, this is quite tightly coiled and will need at least moderate patience. 93/2031+

#### **Maison Morey-Blanc (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault “Les Terres Blanches”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Romain “Sous le Château”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>

Maison Morey-Blanc is a small *négociant* operation that Pierre Morey began with his wife (née Blanc) in 1992. Please see Domaine Pierre Morey (above) for 2021 vintage comments. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, The Source Imports, [www.thesourceimports.com](http://www.thesourceimports.com), CA, The Harvest Wine Company, LLC, [www.harvestwineco.com](http://www.harvestwineco.com), CO, Petit Monde Wine Merchant, [www.petitmondewine.com](http://www.petitmondewine.com), OR, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, all USA; Mr. Vertigo Wine & Spirits, [www.mrvertigo.wine](http://www.mrvertigo.wine), Greece; Swig Imports, <https://swigimports.com>, Bahamas; V.G. Agricola, [marcoantonio@demartino.cl](mailto:marcoantonio@demartino.cl), Chile).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Cool and ultra-fresh aromas of spicy green apple and lemon rind lead to racy and nicely detailed if not especially dense middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean and dry if slightly lean finale. This is attractive in its fashion and would be best served with an appropriate dish or appetizer. 86/2024+

**2021 St. Romain “Sous le Château”:** This too displays notes of green apple and lemon rind though with more evident floral elements. The racy and almost painfully intense medium weight flavors exude an appealing minerality on the equally clean, bone-dry and grapefruit-infused finish. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Meursault “Les Terres Blanches”:** This has the most floral-suffused nose in the range with plenty of citrus, spice and apple influences. There is better mid-palate density to the utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors that offer good richness before terminating in a lemony, bone-dry and slightly lean and borderline tart finale. I suspect that this will better harmonize once it has been bottled and with a few years of keeping. (87-90)/2028+



### Domaine Morey-Coffinet (Chassagne-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	94
2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or	white	86
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet	white	88
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet "Blanchot-Dessus" 1er	white	93
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet "En Cailleret" 1er	white	92
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Houillères"	white	89
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot Fairendes" 1er	white	91
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet "En Remilly" 1er	white	92
2021	➤ Chassagne-Montrachet "La Romanée" 1er	white	93
2021	➤ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	white	92

Thibault Morey described the 2021 growing season as "one where I chose not to fight against the frost as one, I'm not sure it would have done any good and two, Nature needs to be heard. By contrast, I did everything in my power to help the frost-affected vines to repair the damage they suffered and get back on track. I will say that the chardonnay was much more severely affected than the pinot, and we see that in the yields. We picked between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September and while the reds were not especially affected though the chardonnay was off between 50 and 75%. I did slightly lighten the extraction for the reds but not so much that they lack substance. For me, their most salient feature is the striking transparency of terroir. I haven't seen wines this pure in a long time." Morey noted that his 2021 whites were bottled between August and December 2022. As the scores and comments confirm, I was quite impressed with a number of Morey's 2021s, and in particular the La Romanée and Blanchot-Dessus. (Martine's Wines, [www.martineswines.com](http://www.martineswines.com), CA, USA; Anthony Sarjeant and Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), both UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Côte d'Or:** Smoky aromas include those of just sliced apple, pear and cool citrus. There is fine volume, even succulence, to the punchy middleweight flavors that conclude in a nicely dry and sneaky long finale that offers average depth. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** This is also attractively cool and airy with its array of various white orchard fruit, zest and rosemary oil scents. The rich and solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors exhibit better depth and length on the moderately rustic finale that is notably more tightly wound. This is a good Chassagne villages that should drink well after only a year or two of keeping yet repay 5 to 8. 88/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Houillères":** This also reflects a smoky component on the aromas of petrol, crushed anise and white peach. Once again there is fine volume and richness to the unusually powerful larger-bodied flavors that display very fine length and persistence on the bitter zest-inflected finish. This isn't refined but it offers solid quality for a villages Chassagne and is worth considering. 89/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot Fairendes":** A discreet application of wood sets off aromas of olive oil and a vague suggestion of the exotic. There is impressive richness to the opulent and generous medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract while delivering excellent length on the compact, serious and powerful finish. This is a typical Morgeot of power and richness though without the usual rusticity. 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "En Cailleret":** (from vines planted in 1983). A spicier nose freely reveals its aromas of both white and yellow peach and a whiff of jasmine tea. Here too there is very good mid-palate density to the medium weight flavors that aren't quite as powerful though they are finer and more mineral-driven as well on the youthfully austere, more complex and slightly more persistent finish. Lovely and I especially like the balance that should permit this to age gracefully over the next decade. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "La Romanée":** (from a .7 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines). This also possesses an expressive nose that is both slightly more elegant and more complex with its pretty array of pure citrus, acacia blossom, apple, pear and exotic tea scents. There is excellent volume but also a satisfying underlying tension to the medium-bodied flavors that retain a lovely sense of detail on the refined, sappy and impeccably well-balanced finale. This beauty of a La Romanée will need a few years to further develop depth, but the underlying material appears to be more than adequate to do so. Strongly worth considering. 93/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “En Remilly”:** (from 40+ year old vines planted in a .35 ha parcel with only 30 to 40 cm of topsoil). A spicy and vaguely exotic nose offers up notes of citrus confit, white peach, spiced tea and a hint of *pain grillé*. There is excellent mid-palate concentration to the overtly mineral-inflected and refined medium weight flavors that coat the palate with dry extract before concluding in a chiseled and attractively long finale. This is also quite tightly wound so at least some patience should prove beneficial as a bit more overall depth might well move it to the next level. 92/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Blanchot-Dessus”:** (from a miniscule .064 ha parcel of 25+ year old vines; Blanchot-Dessus abuts Montrachet on its southern end). A different aromatic profile is present here with its smoky and spicy array of floral, resin and various white orchard fruit scents. On the palate it's immediately clear that this is a big wine with impressive mid-palate concentration and overt power that continues onto the mouthcoating, gorgeously long and beautifully balanced finish that is very solidly structured. This serious and tautly muscular effort is clearly built-to-age over the longer-term yet it's not so backward that it couldn't be approached after 5 to 7 years of cellaring. 93/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** (from a .20 ha parcel of vines planted in 1999). In contrast to all of the other wines in the range, this is quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing of interest so be sure to allow this some time to air if you're tempted to crack a bottle young. More appealing are the gorgeously textured and vibrant medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also buffers the moderately tightly wound finish where a touch of austerity slowly emerges. This pretty effort could use better depth but a few years of bottle aging should be helpful. 92/2029+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .13 ha parcel of vines planted in 1996 and located on the Chassagne side). One again there is a smoky component to the nose of acacia, lilac, rose petal, citrus and a hint of sandalwood. The racy, precise and beautifully sleek middleweight flavors are not quite as concentrated though they do display focused power on the lemony and saliva-inducing finish that delivers first-rate depth and persistence. This tightly coiled effort should amply repay extended keeping yet isn't so compact that it couldn't be enjoyed after 5-ish or so years. 94/2033+

#### **Domaine Jacques-Frédéric Mugnier (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Nuits St. Georges “Clos de la Maréchale” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Nuits St. Georges “Clos de la Maréchale” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

For in-depth comments about the 2021 vintage from Frédéric Mugnier, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. Note that the '20 Clos reviewed below was bottled in February 2022. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Winebow, Inc., [www.winebow.com](http://www.winebow.com), NJ, Fine Vines, [www.finevines.com](http://www.finevines.com), IL, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Terroir Imports, [www.terroirimports.net](http://www.terroirimports.net), CO, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, [www.ndcweb.com](http://www.ndcweb.com), GA, Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, all USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Nuits St. Georges “Clos de la Maréchale”:** (Mugnier noted that he made only 3 barrels in 2021 rather the usual 14). An exuberantly fresh nose features notes of grapefruit, green apple and a whisper of spice. There is both excellent volume and mid-palate density to the delicious and vibrant medium weight flavors that conclude in a tangy, nicely dry and refreshing finale. This would benefit from having better depth but a few years of keeping should address that. (89-92)/2025+

**2020 Nuits St. Georges “Clos de la Maréchale”:** Ripe and vaguely exotic aromas include those of white peach, passion fruit, citrus confit and a pretty floral hint. The delicious, succulent, round and fleshy middleweight flavors exude a very subtle bead of minerality while the lingering finish is supported but lemon-tinged and very bright acidity where the only nit is a hint of warmth. This refreshingly bone-dry effort should repay mid-term keeping. 91/2026+

### Domaine Michel Niellon (Chassagne-Montrachet)

2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	89
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chenevottes" 1er	white	91
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos de la Maltroie" 1er	white	89
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos St. Jean" 1er	white	91
2021	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	94

Michel Niellon's son-in-law, Michel Coutoux, who has been at the domaine since 1990, is easing out of the day-to-day operations. He is doing so in favor of his children, one of whom, Lucie, has assumed responsibility for the vinification of the reds. She also presented the whites and frankly noted that 2021 "to be perfectly honest, gave me the cold sweats. A warmer than usual winter started bud break too early, which of course was the perfect scenario for an early season frost to do a lot of damage, and that is exactly what transpired. As if that wasn't enough, the summer was awful in terms of disease pressure and especially for oidium and mildew. We finally stumbled to the harvest, which for us began on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. The fruit was clean but there just wasn't much of it. Amazingly enough, we picked fully 3 ha in only one day! In the end, we lost between 65 and 85% in our 1ers though the *villages* Chassagne was a bit better at 'only' off 30%. At first I didn't really like the wines as they didn't seem to have much personality but as the *élevage* progressed and the malos finished, they became much more interesting. I can say that I have come full circle on the 2021s as now that they are in bottle, they are classic whites of discretion and understatement that are crystalline in their terroir purity." Fans of the domaine should be aware that the label has been redesigned as of the 2019 vintage and that the Bâtard will not reappear until 2023 or 2024. The vines in Chevalier will be progressively replaced as well over the next few years. Lastly, Coutoux noted that the 2021s were bottled in August 2022. (Treasury Château & Estates Wines, [www.tweglobal.com](http://www.tweglobal.com), CA and Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, both USA; O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) and Robert Rolls & Co., [www.robertrolls.com](http://www.robertrolls.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (from 8 separate *lieux-dits*). Pretty, cool and airy aromas include those of essence of pear and apple that are trimmed in hints of petrol and wood. There is excellent intensity to the beautifully delineated middleweight flavors that are shaped by bright acidity on the balanced and lingering finale. This could use a few years of keeping to add depth and overall, this is a lovely Chassagne *villages*. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos de la Maltroie":** (from a .94 ha parcel of 25+ year old vines, of which .52 ha is planted to chardonnay in Clos de la Maltroie and Les Places). This is aromatically quite similar to the Chassagne *villages* if perhaps with just a bit more elegance and complexity. There is excellent density to the delicious and intense medium weight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and bone-dry finale that comes up somewhat short. That may change with a few years of bottle aging but at present, this isn't as harmonious as the best here. 89/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chenevottes":** (from Chenevottes proper). Cool and restrained aromas of rosemary oil, just sliced apple and a variety of citrus elements slide gracefully into slightly bigger and richer medium-bodied flavors that possess excellent mid-palate density. This succulent but quite punchy effort offers notably better length and a few years of keeping should help to add depth. Lovely. 91/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos St. Jean":** (from a total of .52 ha of vines planted in the *lieux-dits* of Chassagne du Clos St. Jean and Rebichets). This is also attractively cool, pure and airy with its aromas of green apple, various white orchard fruit and top notes of acacia and citrus zest. Here too there is a lovely sense of underlying tension and good cut to the middleweight flavors that flash very good length on the youthfully austere, compact and serious finale. In contrast to the prior wines which could reasonably be approached on the younger side, this is going to need at least a few years first. 91/2029+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a .23 ha parcel of vines planted in '62 and '68). A gorgeously fresh, airy and cool nose combines notes of green apple, a panoply of white flowers nuances, wet stone and a pretty array of exotic spice elements, especially jasmine. There is a notably more refined mouthfeel to the tautly muscular and overtly mineral-driven medium weight plus flavors that exhibit focused power on the impressively long, balanced, youthfully austere and very classy finale. This is exceptionally stylish and a wine that should easily reward a decade plus of keeping. 94/2031+

### Maison Philippe Pacalet (Beaune)

2021	Chablis "Beauroy" 1er	white	88
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	92
2021	Ladoix	white	88
2021	➔ Meursault "Limozin"	white	89

The iconoclastic Philippe Pacalet, who was for years the *régisseur* (estate manager) for Henri Roch of Domaine Prieuré-Roch, started his own *négociant* operation in 2001. For more detail on Pacalet's view of the 2021 vintage please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. The whites were bottled without fining or filtration in November 2022. Pacalet also noted that because he expressly bottles with a high level of CO<sub>2</sub> that he strongly advises decanting his wines in advance of serving them. (Oz Wine Company, [www.ozwinecompany.com](http://www.ozwinecompany.com), MA, Cape Classics [www.capeclassics.com](http://www.capeclassics.com), NY, both USA; Nathan Fine Wines Ltd, 852.2321.1169, Hong Kong; Wine Source, [www.wine-source.com](http://www.wine-source.com), UK).

**2021 Ladoix:** There is a touch of the exotic present on the petrol, pineapple and white orchard fruit-scented nose. There is at once good vibrancy and solid density to the powerful, clean and dry finale that is borderline tannic. This mildly rustic effort could be enjoyed on the younger side or aged over the mid-term. 88/2026+

**2021 Chablis "Beauroy":** (from Beauroy proper). A markedly different aromatic profile is comprised by notes of quinine, iodine, lemon zest and just enough classic Chablis character to be convincing. The racy and delicious medium weight flavors exude more evident minerality on the clean and dry if not especially complex finale. This delicious effort could also be enjoyed on the younger side if preferred. 88/2026+

**2021 Meursault "Limozin":** Pretty aromas include those of hazelnut, acacia, pear, apple and a hint of wet stone character. There is fine volume to the rich and caressing if decidedly punchy medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by citrus-tinged acidity on the sneaky long finish. Like the Beauroy, this too could be enjoyed young though I would suggest allowing it at least a few years so that more depth can develop. 89/2027+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Pernand fruit). This also displays a hint of wet stone character on the cool green apple, floral, lemon zest and discreet spice scents. There is terrific intensity to the relatively big-bodied and powerful yet beautifully well-defined flavors that coat the palate with dry extract on the clean, dry and overtly mineral-driven finale. This would also benefit from at least a few years of cellaring in order to progressively develop better depth. 92/2029+

### Domaine Sylvain Pataille (Marsannay la Côte)

2021	Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(86-88)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté "Les Auvonnes Au Pépé"	white	(86-89)
2021	Bourgogne Aligoté "Les Champ Forey"	white	(86-88)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté "La Charme Aux Prêtres"	white	(87-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté "Clos Du Roy"	white	(87-90)
2021	Bouzeron "Le Courcel"	white	(87-89)
2021	Marsannay	white	(87-89)
2021	Marsannay "Le Chapitre"	white	(85-87?)
2021	Marsannay Chardonnay Rosé	white	(86-88)

Sylvain Pataille is a consulting enologist to some of the biggest names in the Côte d'Or. With his brother Laurent, he now farms 15 ha of vineyards located exclusively in Marsannay. He was called away at the time of my visit so I do not have the benefit of his views on the 2021 vintage. I would add that, as usual, the quality of this range of aligoté-based wines is again very good. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CA/NV/AZ/NM, USA; O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A classic aligoté nose reflects notes of green apple, spice and a variety of citrus nuances that are picked up by the racy, intense and delicious middleweight flavors and particularly so on the very dry, moderately austere and sneaky long finish. This should drink well shortly after release. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Marsannay:** Cool and airy aromas of apple, pear and lemon-lime precede succulent, round and nicely energetic flavors that conclude in a tangy and moderately dry but less austere finale. This should also drink well upon release. (87-89)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Champ Forey”:** Bright and super-fresh aromas include those of spiced green apple and a plethora of citrus, especially pink grapefruit. There is borderline painful intensity to the precise and delicious medium weight flavors that display reasonable depth and persistence on the bone-dry and markedly lemony finale. This overtly austere effort may be too citrusy for some palates. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Les Auvonnes Au Pépé”:** Pungent aromas of full-on reduction and wood render the nose impossible to assess. More interesting are the slightly bigger and richer medium-bodied flavors that possess a succulent mouthfeel while exhibiting slightly more structure on the bone-dry and markedly austere finale. In contrast to the prior wines, this is going to need at least a year or two of keeping to unwind and better harmonize but in the end, there is more potential here. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “La Charme Aux Prêtres”:** This is also quite firmly reduced and unreadable in its present condition. Otherwise, there is both good freshness and verve to the slightly more concentrated middleweight flavors that possess a seductive mid-palate succulence before terminating in a more moderately dry and youthfully austere finale. This is very good for its level and worth checking out. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté “Clos Du Roy”:** Firm reduction. There is even better mid-palate density to the vibrant and attractively textured flavors that exude a subtle minerality that adds a sense of lift to the balanced, complex and moderately dry finale. This clean and refreshing effort is excellent for its level and warmly recommended. (87-90)/2027+

**2021 Bouzeron “Le Courcel”:** This is also reduced but background citrus nuances can be perceived. There is very good richness if not quite the same energy suffusing the middleweight flavors, the seductive texture of which contrasts with the exceptionally citrusy, bone-dry and somewhat tangy finish. This could use better depth and allowing it a few years of keeping should also serve to allow the finish to unwind. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Marsannay Chardonnay Rosé:** (chardonnay Rosé is variety of chardonnay). Firm reduction. There is impressive mid-palate density to the palate coating flavors that possess superb intensity while displaying good length, if only average depth, on the linear, bone-dry and moderately austere finale. (86-88)/2025+

**2021 Marsannay “Le Chapitre”:** Moderate reduction overshadows the underlying fruit. There is both good volume and richness to the caressing but punchy medium weight flavors where the edgy, citrusy and very dry finish stops abruptly with noticeably bitterness. This is a curious wine and given the general high quality of the range, I can't help but wonder if I didn't catch this on a bad day as it's pretty grumpy. (85-87)/2024+

### **Hugues Pavelot (Savigny-lès-Beaune)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
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Hugues Pavelot, of Domaine Jean-Marc & Hugues Pavelot (see immediately below), started a small *négociant* operation several years ago. The idea is to buy in fruit at fair prices when opportunities present themselves and he knows both the *vigneron* and the specific parcel of vines. He notes that he will make the wines in exactly the same fashion as he does those of the domaine. The wines will be distributed by the same importers for the domaine, and for details on that and the 2021 vintage, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. Note that the Pernand blanc was bottled in December 2022 using the Diam brand of composite cork. I would add that Pavelot noted that his normal range of purchases was curtailed by the tiny yields as his usual sources simply didn't have any wine to sell.

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (from Les Pins). Citrusy aromas of mostly green apple and crushed fennel display a floral top note. The sleek, vibrant and nicely detailed middleweight flavors exude a bracing minerality on the highly refreshing, cool and focused finish that is clean and bracingly dry. This could use better depth so a few years of keeping should be helpful in that regard. 88/2026+



### Domaine Jean-Marc & Hugues Pavelot (Savigny-lès-Beaune)

2021	Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune "Monts Battois"	white	86
2021	Savigny-lès-Beaune	white	88

For more information about Hugues Pavelot's views on the 2021 vintage see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. Note that Hugues has a small *négociant* operation and the reviews for those wines are immediately above. Pavelot noted that there would be no Corton Blanc in 2021. (Becky Wasserman & Co., [www.beckywasserman.com](http://www.beckywasserman.com), Beaune, France; Wines Unlimited, [www.winesunlimited.com](http://www.winesunlimited.com), LA, Augustan Wine, [www.augustanwine.com](http://www.augustanwine.com), FL, Little Guy Wine, [www.littleguywine.com](http://www.littleguywine.com), MI, Small Potatoes Wine, [www.smallpotatoeswine.com](http://www.smallpotatoeswine.com), ID, C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA and Pas Mal Portfolio, [mafeuer@mindspring.com](mailto:mafeuer@mindspring.com), NY/NJ, all USA; Woolworths, [www.kkot@danmurphys.com.au](http://www.kkot@danmurphys.com.au), Australia; FINE+RARE Wines Ltd, [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), UK; Le Maître de Chai, [www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca](http://www.lemaitredechai.qc.ca), SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com) and Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.seguinrobillard.ca](http://www.seguinrobillard.ca), all Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune "Monts Battois":** A whiff of the exotic floats above the aromas of appeal, pear, zest and white peach. There is a lovely texture to the nicely dense flavors that contrast markedly with the stony, bone-dry, firmly austere and linear finale. A year of keeping should help this bitter lemon-inflected effort unwind. 86/2024+

**2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune:** (from Les Planchots and Les Vermots; there is about 5% of pinot blanc co-planted with the chardonnay). Here too there is a whiff of the exotic present on the agreeably fresh aromas of pineapple, apricot and lychee. There is an equally appealing texture to the richer and denser if less mineral-driven flavors that conclude in a lightly austere and rustic yet persistent finale. This should also benefit from a few years of keeping. 88/2025+

### Domaine du Pavillon (Pommard) – Domaines Albert Bichot

2021	➔ Meursault	white	89
2021	➔ Meursault "Les Charmes" 1er	white	92

This 17 ha domaine based in Pommard was acquired in 1993 by the Bichot conglomerate (see above) and operates in the same fashion as Chablis-based Long-Depaquit. Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for more information on the 2021 vintage. Note that the Corton-Charlemagne, Beaune "Clos des Mouches" and the Meursault "Les Criots" were not presented due to the very tiny quantities. (Albert Bichot USA, [www.albert-bichot.com](http://www.albert-bichot.com), USA; Stannary Wine, [www.stannarywine.com](http://www.stannarywine.com), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), Soho Wine Supply Ltd, [www.sohowine.co.uk](http://www.sohowine.co.uk), Honest Grapes, [www.honestgrapes.co.uk](http://www.honestgrapes.co.uk), Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), Inverarity Morton, [www.inveraritymorton.com](http://www.inveraritymorton.com), C & O Wines, [www.cowines.com](http://www.cowines.com), all UK).

**2021 Meursault:** (from organically farmed fruit in Les Corbins, Criots, En Marcousse and Les Dressoles). A very Meursault nose features notes of hazelnut, acacia blossom, cool citrus and a whiff of apple. The dense, delicious and vibrant medium-bodied flavors possess a lovely, even seductive, texture that carries over to the refreshing dry, crisp and lingering finale. This well-made effort has enough structure to repay 5 to 8 years of cellaring and overall, it is worth considering. 89/2027+

**2021 Meursault "Les Charmes":** (80% from Charmes Dessus). There is a touch of olive oil character to the slightly riper aromas of citrus confit, spice and various floral nuances. The rich and relatively full-bodied flavors possess an equally seductive mouthfeel before terminating in a clean, very dry and impressively persistent finale. This well-balanced effort could use better depth but the underlying material and development potential certainly appears to be present for that to progressively occur. 92/2029+

### Domaine Alvina Pernot (Puligny-Montrachet)

2021	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	94
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Femelottes"	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Rue de Bois"	white	88
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	95
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Caillerets" 1er	white	92
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos des Noyer Bret"	white	90
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er	white	93
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "La Rue Aux Vaches"	white	91

Alvina Pernot is the granddaughter of Burgundy icon Paul Pernot (see immediately below). She, and her husband, Philippe Abadie, have started their own domaine that is technically mostly a *négociant*, effective with the 2018 vintage. I say technically because the must largely comes from her grandfather's and father's vineyards and thus for all intents and purposes, it's really domaine sourced. Importantly though, the vinification and *élevage* methods are not simply a "copy and paste" imitation of what her grandfather does. The fruit itself generally comes from earlier picked parcels and, when possible, the highest on the slope; for example, in the 2021 vintage began picking on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September whereas her grandfather did not begin until the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Secondly, no new wood is employed during the 11-month *élevage* period (slightly longer than her grandfather's 10 months) where there is no racking until the wines are prepared for bottling. For now, natural corks continue to be used and the bottles are waxed. I would note that the quality only continues to increase and a number of these 2021s are very much worthy of your interest, particularly at the lower levels though with that said, the Corton-Charlemagne is quite special. (Woodland Hills Wine Co., [www.whwc.com](http://www.whwc.com), CA, USA; Version Vin Distribution, [www.version-vin.com](http://www.version-vin.com), and CDP Fine Wines, [www.cdppfinewines.com](http://www.cdppfinewines.com), France; Fine + Rare Wines Ltd., [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), UK; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), Australia; LeMarc Wines, [www.lamarcwines.com](http://www.lamarcwines.com), Norway; The Fine Wine Experience, [www.finewineexperience.com](http://www.finewineexperience.com), Hong Kong/China; Erik Sorensen, [www.eriksorensenvin.dk](http://www.eriksorensenvin.dk) and Laudrup Vin, Denmark; Simple, [www.simple.ru](http://www.simple.ru), Russia; Asia Wine Cellar, [www.asiawinecellar.com](http://www.asiawinecellar.com), Singapore; and Tatung Atherton, [www.wine.com.tw](http://www.wine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Femelottes":** Super-fresh aromas include those of white orchard fruit, especially just sliced apple, along with wisps of citrus and spice. There is excellent verve and solid density to the utterly delicious and well-detailed flavors that terminate in a clean, dry and refreshing finale. This is lovely for its level and a wine that could be aged for a few years to good effect if desired. 87/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Rue de Bois":** This is aromatically similar to the Femelottes but with a touch of petrol character. The sleeker and more refined middleweight flavors also possess a lovely sense of verve and equally good density while displaying excellent length on the almost bone-dry, clean and slightly more complex finale. This is outstanding for its level, indeed it **could easily pass for a villages Puligny**. Recommended. 88/2025+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos des Noyer Bret":** A hint of olive oil adds breadth to the cooler, airy and elegant aromas of acacia, petrol and white orchard fruit. The racy, intense and slightly bigger-bodied flavors are shaped by lemon-tinged acidity on the clean, dry, tightly coiled and youthfully austere finale. This chiseled effort is also excellent for its level and note that a few years of cellaring should help to add some needed depth. 90/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "La Rue Aux Vaches":** (as is usually the case, to be bottled only in magnum). Here there is enough reduction to render the nose difficult to describe accurately. More interesting are the bigger if not finer medium-bodied flavors that flash impressive power on the bone-dry, youthfully austere and decidedly compact finale. This is also excellent for its level and a wine that's going to need extended keeping, particularly in magnum format. 91/2033+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Caillerets":** A restrained if exceptionally pretty nose combines cool and airy notes of acacia, zest and anise with a vague hint of exotic fruit. Interestingly, the medium weight flavors aren't quite as concentrated as those of the Rue aux Vaches though they are noticeably finer and more mineral-driven, all wrapped in a youthfully austere bitter lemon-inflected finale. I very much like the highly sophisticated mouthfeel and while this could also use better depth, a few years of keeping should address that. Lovely. 92/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles":** An all but imperceptible application of wood sets off equally cool and even more elegant aromas of honeysuckle, spice and various white fleshed fruit. The equally gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors aren't quite as mineral-driven but they do exhibit even better power on the impeccably well-balanced, moderately dry, youthfully austere and superbly long. This is a classic Pucelles that should age accordingly. 93/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Pernand fruit). This is restrained to the point of being almost mute though aggressive swirling eventually coaxes reluctant aromas of green apple, mineral reduction, crushed fennel and white flower to reveal themselves. There is outstanding density and power to the overtly stony larger-bodied flavors that are at once caressing but punchy, all wrapped in a refreshingly clean, very dry and quite firm finale that goes on and on. This is terrific and a wine that is not so backward that it couldn't be reasonably approached after only 5 to 7 years though the likely development horizon is more likely to be 12 to 15 years. This is a **wine to search out**. 95/2033+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** A slightly riper and certainly more expressive nose more freely offers up its combination of white peach, citrus confit and a lovely array of floral elements. The medium weight and impressively intense flavors are not quite as dense as those of the Corton-Charlemagne but even so, they are also wonderfully textured and refined on the strikingly long, very dry and inviting finish. This too could use better depth but the aging potential, not to mention innate class of a fine Bâtard, is present in spades. 94/2033+

#### **Domaine Paul Pernot (Puligny-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Côte d'Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault-Blagny "La Pièce Sous Le Bois" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Garenne" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Pucelles" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>

Paul Pernot's son Philippe presented the wines while noting that the "2021 growing season was frankly extremely difficult as it began with a devastating frost. We protected some vineyards but how effective it was is debatable. We had some vineyards destroyed to the point of 90%. For example, in Blagny we made 2 barrels instead of 20 and in Folatières we made 8 barrels rather than 60! And in Champ Canet we lost the entire crop and the Chalumeaux was scarcely better. In fact, the only vineyard where we didn't do too badly were the Pucelles and the Puligny *villages* as they are a bit lower down the slope where the damage was less consequential. The losses in Bienvenues and Bâtard came in around 50% and about the only encouraging aspect of the vintage is that the quality is actually excellent though I confess to not thinking it would be at the time we began picking on the September 22<sup>nd</sup>." The 2021s were bottled in July 2022 using the Diam brand composite cork. I found the quality of the Pernot 2021s to be some of the best that I have ever seen from them and given their relatively reasonable pricing in most markets, they're absolutely worth checking out. Note that the Chalumeaux and Champ Canet were obviously not presented. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, USA; Jeanne Marie Dechamps from Domaines et Saveurs Collection, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), France; Fine + Rare Wines Ltd., [www.frw.co.uk](http://www.frw.co.uk), UK; Fine Wine Experience, [www.finewineexperience.com](http://www.finewineexperience.com), and Kerry Wine, [www.kerrywines.com](http://www.kerrywines.com), Hong Kong/China; Simple, [www.siimple.ru](http://www.siimple.ru), Russia; Govin Grands Terroirs, [www.govin.com.br](http://www.govin.com.br), Brazil; Wine Culture, [www.wineculture.com.sg](http://www.wineculture.com.sg), Singapore; Premium Wine Exchange, [www.pwxchange.com/ph](http://www.pwxchange.com/ph), Philippines; and Tatung Atherton, [www.wine.com.tw](http://www.wine.com.tw), Taiwan).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Ripe and ultra-fresh aromas include those of apple, pear, citrus and a whiff of spice. There is impressive richness to the middleweight flavors thanks to the excellent mid-palate density, all wrapped in a lush and vaguely sweet finish. This should drink well young but have no trouble repaying a few years of keeping if desired. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** (from Puligny vines on the Meursault border – vinified in stainless steel). A more flora if less spicy combination is comprised by notes of mostly white orchard fruit and more discreet citrus influence. The succulent, round and caressing flavors possess good punch as well as equally good mid-palate density while delivering better depth on the zest-inflected finish. This is very good for its level and worth a look. 87/2025+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 4 different separate *lieux-dits* within Puligny and Blagny from vines that average 50 years of age). An airy, distinctly cool and restrained nose somewhat grudgingly offers up an array of the essence of pear, apple, acacia and an interesting whiff of just sliced lime. The rich and solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors are at once succulent and seductive before terminating in a similar zest-inflected finish that offers notably better depth and persistence. Lovely and excellent quality here for a *villages* Puligny. 90/2027+

**2021 Meursault-Blagny “La Pièce Sous Le Bois”:** (from replanted vines that are 10+ years of age). This is also restrained if slightly riper with its aromas of pear liqueur, spice and citrus confit. The medium weight flavors are rich and plush to the point of opulence yet there is no heaviness thanks to the firm acid spine supporting the clean and nicely dry finale. This is lovely though I wouldn't describe it as classic. Note that this could easily be enjoyed young. 92/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos de la Garenne”:** (from a .7 ha parcel that was purchased by Pernot's great grandfather; it was replanted in 1957 and a portion of the vines are aligoté). A slightly brighter array is composed by notes of acacia blossom, green apple, lemon-lime and a hint of star anise. There is better verve to the stonier middleweight flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also serves to buffer the bone-dry and firmer finale that exhibits excellent persistence. This is impressive and a wine that will need at least a few years of patience. Worth considering. 93/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** (from a huge 3.5 ha parcel of 45+ year old vines, most of which is in Folatières proper with .40 ha in Peux Bois; Pernot pointed out that for the 2021 vintage, this will not be labeled as Clos des Folatières). A more elegant and slightly riper nose features aromas of acacia blossom, pear, white peach, sandalwood and soft spice nuances. I very much like the sense of underlying tension on the more powerful yet caressing flavors that exhibit even more minerality on the balanced and sneaky long finale that isn't quite as complex, or at least not yet. 92/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Pucelles”:** (from a .28 ha parcel of 35+ year old vines). Hints of honeysuckle and exotic jasmine tea are present on the cooler and wonderfully broad-ranging nose that is more elegant and spicier still. There is superb density to the almost painfully intense medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with dry extract while displaying strikingly good persistence on the clean, nicely dry and impeccably well-balanced finale. This beautifully poised effort is class in a glass. Highly recommended. 94/2031+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from two parcels of vines totaling .37 ha, with ages of 10+ and 40+ years). Here too there is a whiff of honeysuckle and more floral elements on the ripe and fresh nose of mostly citrus confit, spice and essence of pear. The medium weight flavors are not quite as concentrated though the sophisticated texture is even finer while displaying even better length on the equally well-balanced. This is stunningly good and while it could use a bit more depth, overall this beauty is a knockout. 95/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from 3 different parcels totaling .61 ha, one of which is in Puligny and the other two are in Chassagne; the vines are a mix of ages between 15 and 30+ years). An expressive nose is more floral still as well as slightly spicier with a broad array of white fleshed fruit and exotic tea wisps. There is first-rate density to the opulent, rich and palate soaking larger-bodied flavors that seem deceptively open on the mid-palate before immediately tightening up on the powerful, perfectly balanced and breathtakingly long finish. Like the Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet, this needs to develop more depth but the potential certainly appears to be present. This could well be **one of the best examples of Bâtard in 2021**. 96/2033+

#### **Domaine Fernand et Laurent Pillot (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champs Gain” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chênes”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Meursault “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Le Noyer Bret”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ St. Aubin “Sur le Sentier du Clou” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

Laurent Pillot, who directs this domaine and whose production is basically split 50/50 between reds and whites, is slowly turning many aspects of the day-to-day operations over to his son Adrian. I tasted with both of them on this visit and their brief collective take on the 2021 vintage was that “it wasn't simple to manage. The frost was the worst of it but the oidium was tough as well, especially for those vines that were weakened by the frost. It was even more complicated because even though there wasn't necessarily a huge amount of rainfall, it rained small amounts often so the vineyards were always wet. Even the harvest, which is always a difficult decision to decide when to pick, was further complicated by the differing maturities between parcels damaged by the frost and those spared. Ultimately we chose to pick between the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of September and

yields were quite variable. In contrast to the 2016 vintage, we lost up to two-thirds in our premier cru vineyards though it wasn't as bad for the *villages* wines. In 2016, it was the reverse. Overall, we lost right at 50% of the crop relative to a normal vintage. Maturities were good though as potential alcohols ranged from 12.5 to 13.2%. For the reds, we vinified on the lighter side using no whole clusters. The other aspect that was complicated was how to manage the lees and this was true for both colors. We basically did everything possible to be as sure as we could be that we were working exclusively with the cleanest lees. Even so, we decided to shorten the *élevage* for the reds just to be certain. As to the wines, they're frankly better than we expected as they changed enormously in barrel and now we're actually pretty pleased with them." I would note that the domaine uses the Diam brand composite cork for all of the whites and for the entry level reds; the upper level reds see natural corks. (Taub Family Selections, [www.taubfamilyselections.com](http://www.taubfamilyselections.com), FL, Scott Paul Wines, [www.scottpaul.com](http://www.scottpaul.com), OR, Galaxy Wine Company, [www.galaxywinecompany.com](http://www.galaxywinecompany.com), OR, Wine Warehouse, [www.winewarehouse.com](http://www.winewarehouse.com), CA, all USA; Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), and Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk), both UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Exuberantly fresh aromas of spicy green apple and citrus zest give way to rich, succulent and generously proportioned middleweight flavors that terminate in a nicely clean, dry and crisp finale that offers just enough depth to be interesting. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** There is just enough reduction present to mask everything except a hint of citrus that is picked up by the delicious flavors that are shaped by bright acidity on the equally dry and lingering finale that is just a bit firmer. A year or two of keeping should help to add depth. 86/2025+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (mostly from La Bergerie with additional parcels in Les Chênes, Les Essards, La Bergerie, Benoîtes and La Corvée). Here too the nose is agreeably fresh with a different array of aromas that include resin, rosemary oil and just sliced white orchard fruit, especially pear. There is excellent mid-palate density to the delicious and well-defined medium weight flavors that are borderline rustic but do offer very good depth and persistence. This is a fine Chassagne *villages* and worth a look. 89/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Chênes":** Like the Bourgogne Chardonnay, there is just enough reduction present to mask everything except a hint of citrus zest. There is by contrast both an appealing freshness and verve to the medium-bodied flavors that flash solid power on the succulent, sappy and sneaky long finish that also displays fine depth. This isn't elegant but it delivers very good quality for its level and is also worth considering. 89/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Le Noyer Bret":** (from a mix of vine ages averaging approximately 15+ years). Cool and airy aromas are comprised by notes of petrol, apple and an acacia blossom nuance. There is even better mid-palate density and a real sense of volume thanks to the abundant sappy dry extract that also buffers the punchy and highly seductive finish. This is notably finer and while it could use better depth, more will almost certainly develop. This is also a quality *villages* and warmly recommended. 90/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin "Sur le Sentier du Clou":** A slightly cooler and more floral-inflected if otherwise similar nose introduces sleeker and more mineral-driven flavors that deliver slightly better depth and persistence on the clean, dry and impeccably balanced finish. This is pretty much textbook Sentier and also recommended. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Champs Gain":** (from 10+ year old vines). Moderate reduction once again masks everything but citrus hints. On the palate there is excellent richness and concentration to the very generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that are at once succulent but punchy, all wrapped in a lingering, dry and balanced finale. This could also use better depth but more should reasonably develop if given a chance. I would also note that this is already sufficiently pliant that it could be approached after only 3 to 4 years if desired. 91/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Morgeot":** (from Petit Clos and Fairendes). Once again there is a coolness to the pure and pretty aromas of various white orchard fruit, floral and subtle lemon zest wisps. There is excellent density to the rich and powerful medium weight plus flavors that conclude in a bone-dry, youthfully austere and impressively long finish. Like several wines in the range, this will need to develop better depth to merit my rating but that should reasonably occur in time. 92/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Vergers":** (90% from Les Pasquelles and the rest from Les Vergers proper). A hint of reduction shaves the high notes from the otherwise pretty citrus, pear and soft floral scents. There is less volume but notably better refinement to the delicious, vibrant and well-detailed flavors that possess a suave mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the clean, bright and balanced finale that isn't quite as complex, at least not yet. 91/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Les Caillerets":** Riper and ever-so-vaguely exotic notes include those of white peach, cool floral, pear and citrus on the nicely spicy nose that are trimmed in moderate wood. Unusually, there is a hint of quinine on the beautifully delineated and stony medium weight flavors that culminate in a citrusy, clean, markedly dry and mildly austere finale. This beautifully delineated effort is clearly built-to-age and is going to need at least 4 to 6 years of patience first. (91-93)/2029+



**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Vide Bourse”:** (from a parcel that is immediately adjacent to Bâtard). This is aromatically similar to the Caillerets with perhaps just a bit less wood influence. As one would expect, there is excellent volume and power to the larger-bodied if less mineral-driven flavors that deliver excellent length on the sappy, balanced and equally mildly austere finale. At least some patience recommended. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Grandes Ruchottes”:** Here too there is enough oak influence framing the aromas of cool floral, citrus and apple to merit pointing out. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the attractively textured and overtly stony middleweight plus flavors that also display impressive power on the lengthy bitter citrus-tinged finale. This is quite firmly structured and compact so like the Vide Bourse, at least some patience is strongly advised. (91-94)/2031+

### **Jean-Marc Pillot (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

2021	➔ Bourgogne “Le Haut des Champs”	white	87
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Les Fairendes” 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles” 1er	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie” 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers – Clos St. Marc” 1er	white	(92-94)
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Le Noyer Bret”	white	(89-91)

Jean-Marc Pillot has been progressively turning the day-to-day operation of the domaine over to his son Antonin, and for the first time, I did the tasting with him. He noted that “I wasn’t really concerned about the quality of the whites, but I definitely was concerned about the reds. We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and volumes for the chardonnay were off fully 70%, in fact in a few of our 1ers we had yields of between 7 and 9 hl/ha! Potential alcohols were good if not high at between 12.8 to 13.2% which is pretty much perfect for the style of wine we want to make. As to the wines, I love the style of the 2021 vintage as it’s bright, fresh and beautifully transparent to the underlying terroir.” I would agree with Pillot because even though the domaine rarely misses, there are some really lovely wines. Note that there is no Chevalier in 2021. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; Champagnes et Châteaux, [www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk](http://www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk), UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong and Macau; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 Bourgogne “Le Haut des Champs”:** Citrusy green apple scents precede punchy and well-detailed middleweight flavors that possess very good density before concluding in a clean, very dry and highly refreshing finish. This should drink well early for its crunchy fruit while offering better than average depth for the genre. 87/2024+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Le Noyer Bret”:** This is also agreeably fresh and bright with more floral elements adding a touch of elegance to the lemon-lime and white orchard fruit aromas. I very much like the texture of the delicious if not especially dense medium weight flavors that also terminate in a clean, very dry and citrus-tinged finale. This is a lovely Puligny *villages* and worth a look. (89-91)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** A discreet application of wood is present on the aromas essence of pear, rosemary oil and a whiff of petrol character. The succulent and slightly more concentrated flavors are blessed with even better complexity on the sneaky long, balanced, clean and agreeably dry finale. This is an excellent Chassagne *villages* and recommended, plus it could be enjoyed young if desired. (90-92)/2027+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Macherelles”:** Moderate reduction overshadows the fruit at present. By contrast, there is both good freshness and verve to the beautifully detailed middleweight flavors that exude a bracing salinity on the lemony, long and agreeably dry finale. This could use better depth, but the potential appears to be present for that to progressively occur. (90-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Chenevottes”:** (from Chenevottes proper). Here too there is enough reduction to render the nose impossible to accurately assess. There is a slightly finer mouthfeel to the precise and intense medium weight flavors that flash notably better complexity on the clean, sleek, bone-dry and impressively long finale. Lovely. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers”:** (from 50+ year old vines in Vergers proper). Smoky aromas of green apple, lemon zest and a background whiff of spice are complemented by slightly bigger-bodied and concentrated medium-bodied flavors that deliver equally good length on the bone-dry, sleek and balanced finale that isn't quite as complex. With that said, this wine has an impeccable track record of aging well and the 2021 version should be no exception. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Maltroie”:** (from Maltroie proper). An expressive nose features notes of white orchard fruit, plenty of floral and discreet petrol and lemon-lime nuances. There is good volume to the caressing middleweight flavors that possess average mid-palate density though notably better depth before terminating in a delicious and dry-in-the-best sense finale. This balanced and stylish effort is really quite good, and I particularly like the sense of harmony. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains”:** This is aromatically more floral still with its fresh and cool array of airy apple, pear and soft spice scents. The lilting and almost delicate middleweight flavors are deceptively powerful and the power carries over to the balanced, long and very dry but not really austere finale. This is also really quite good. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot – Les Fairendes”:** This is also quite floral with its emphasis on what fleshed fruit aromas that are trimmed in hints of citrus and oak. The refined and attractively textured medium weight flavors aren't especially dense, indeed they're on the lighter side and especially so for Fairendes, all wrapped in a lingering, balanced and lemony finish. This is exceptionally pretty if lacking the same body and texture as the best in the range. (90-93)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from Caillerets proper). A cool, pure and airy nose features notes of lemon peel, lavender, white and yellow peach, and soft spice nuances. There is palpably better concentration to the seductive but precise medium-bodied flavors that flash plenty of minerality on the balanced and strikingly persistent if linear and youthfully austere finish. (91-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers – Clos St. Marc”:** (from old vines of an indeterminate age in Pétingeret). Once again there is a really lovely coolness to the fresh and airy aromas of mostly white orchard fruit, crushed fennel and a hint of Asian style tea. There is even better mid-palate density to the delicious medium weight plus flavors that coat the mouth with sappy dry extract while exhibiting superb length and minerality on the powerful and beautifully balanced finale. This is terrific and absolutely worth your interest. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Pernand fruit). A subtle touch of wood frames the pretty, cool and nicely layered array offers up notes of green apple, white flower, spice and mineral reduction. There is focused power and fine detail to the medium-bodied and tautly muscular flavors where the lemon-tinged acidity adds lift to the impeccably well-balanced and youthfully austere finale. As typical examples of Corton-Charlemagne go, this is not especially concentrated but it will definitely need at least a few years of cellar time to unwind. Good development potential here. (92-95)/2033+

#### **Domaine Paul Pillot (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Grande Montagne” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Grandes Ruchottes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Masures”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ St. Aubin “Les Charmois” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Pitangerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

Thierry Pillot told me that 2021 “certainly had a very difficult growing season but hard as it was, in hindsight I don't believe that it was quite as tough as 2016 was. It's undoubtedly true that we didn't make much wine as the whites were off between 75 and 80%. But even so, we managed to make every appellation, even the Bâtard (not presented) though there was only 100 liters of it! We picked from the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and the fruit was at least clean and ripe and I had no problems with either fermentation. With the really tiny quantities though, I wanted to be absolutely sure not to inadvertently mar them with too much oak so I used zero new wood. While I never like to judge my own wines for obvious reasons, I will say that to this point I am excited by their potential.” I have noted this before, but Pillot has become one of the finest white wine producers in the Côte and his 2021s are yet another testament to just how good he is. In fact, when considered as a portfolio, they could well be the

best I have ever seen from the domaine, and I have been visiting for almost 30 years now. In particular, if you can find the Grande Montagne, Grandes Ruchottes or the La Romanée, do not hesitate. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY and Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, William Gladstone Imports, [www.williamgladstoneimports.com](http://www.williamgladstoneimports.com), NY/HI, USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), H & H Bancroft Wines, [www.bancroftwines.com](http://www.bancroftwines.com), Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com) and Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), all UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong/Macau; Muyi Fine Wines, [www.muyiwine.com](http://www.muyiwine.com), China; Bibendum Wine Co., [www.bibendum.com.au](http://www.bibendum.com.au), Australia).

**2021 Bourgogne:** Moderate reduction knocks down the fruit though there is both good freshness and verve to the nicely textured middleweight flavors that deliver better than average depth and persistence on the balanced, clean and refreshing finale. This attractively dry effort also offers fine development potential and overall, this is recommended. (86-89)/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Pitangerets”:** Here too there is enough reduction to mask the nuances of the underlying fruit. More interesting are the almost painfully intense medium weight flavors that exude a bracing salinity on the lemony, bone-dry, chiseled and youthfully austere finale that flashes very good if not truly distinguished length. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Charmois”:** A smoky hint of mineral reduction is accompanied by notes of petrol, citrus and a plethora of pretty and cool floral elements. There is excellent underlying tension if not quite the same mid-palate density to the beautifully detailed flavors that display an almost palpable stoniness on the bone-dry and youthfully austere finish that is noticeably longer. Good stuff and worth considering. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** Super-fresh aromas include those of rosemary oil, petrol, sliced pear and bright lemon-lime wisps. There is outstanding density to the utterly delicious and beautifully intense medium-bodied flavors that possess excellent cut and drive on the balanced, clean and decidedly dry finale. This could use better depth though more will almost certainly develop if given a chance, and overall, this is a terrific Chassagne *villages*. **Highly recommended.** (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Masures”:** Moderate reduction overshadows everything save for an interesting whiff of the exotic. There is a lovely sense of verve if not quite the same density to the fleshy and delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a sleek, bone-dry and clean finish that delivers fine length. Like the straight Chassagne *villages*, this too could use better depth but more should almost certainly develop if given a chance. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Champ Gains”:** Cool, airy and ultra-fresh aromas are comprised by notes of green apple, essence of pear, lemon zest and a touch of star anise. There is strikingly good energy suffusing the delicious medium weight flavors that possess a bit more mid-palate volume before terminating in a very dry but not really austere finale that could also use better depth. Lovely and a wine that should amply repay up to a decade of keeping. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos St. Jean”:** A more floral-suffused nose freely offers up its combination of mostly white fleshed fruit along with more subtle spice and citrus zest nuances. The sleek, delicious and attractively intense medium-bodied flavors possess a highly seductive mouthfeel, all wrapped in a bitter lemon-tinged finale that, like several wines in the range, would benefit from having better depth. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** A discreet touch of mineral reduction adds interest to the gently citrus-inflected aromas of acacia blossom and spiced essence of pear where a vague hint of the exotic can barely be discerned. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the markedly stony medium weight flavors that possess a seductive mid-palate that contrasts significantly with the powerful and serious yet not especially austere finale that is akin to rolling tiny pebbles around the mouth. This is terrific and very much built-to-age so at least some patience will be necessary. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Grande Montagne”:** (this will be bottled directly from barrel). A discreet application of wood sets off ripe yet wonderfully fresh aromas of citrus confit, a plethora of spice and floral elements and a whiff of wet stone. There is excellent mid-palate density and superb power with knock-out intensity to the larger-scaled flavors that deliver strikingly good depth and length on the notably dry and youthfully finish that also seem to be built on a base of pungent minerality. This chiseled effort is a ‘buy and forget you own it for at least a decade’ wine. (93-95)/2031+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Grandes Ruchottes”:** A slightly cooler nose grudgingly reflects its aromas of exuberantly spicy green apple and citrus zest along with more subtle floral wisps. There is superb detail to the chiseled middleweight flavors that aren’t quite as dense or powerful yet they are slightly more refined and particularly so on the hugely long and explosive finish. This gorgeous effort is even more tightly coiled and I would offer similar advice as for the Grande Montagne, e.g. buy it and forget you own it. In a word, stunning. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “La Romanée”:** An airy, cool and quite pure nose evidences plenty of mineral reduction along with citrus, spice, essence of pear and just sliced green apple aromas that are trimmed in soft wood. The wonderfully refined, seductively textured and stony larger-bodied flavors seem to be extracted directly from liquid rock while culminating in a chiseled, lemony and palate staining finish that delivers absolutely superb length. **This is a ‘wow’ wine, indeed it’s brilliant.** (93-96)/2033+

### **Domaine Ponsot (Morey St.-Denis)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Morey St. Denis “Clos des Monts Luisants Vieilles Vignes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Romain Cuvée de la Mésange</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Morey St. Denis “Clos des Monts Luisants Vieilles Vignes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound Database for more information about the 2021 vintage *chez* Ponsot. Note that I was able to retaste the 2020 vintage of the Clos des Monts Luisants VV as well, and that review is included below; it was bottled in June 2022. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL and Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Ballantynes of Cowbridge, [www.ballantynes.co.uk](http://www.ballantynes.co.uk), The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, [www.therareandfinewinecompany.com](http://www.therareandfinewinecompany.com), and Lay & Wheeler, [www.laywheeler.com](http://www.laywheeler.com), UK; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

**2021 St. Romain Cuvée de la Mésange:** (a *mésange* is a chickadee). A super-fresh nose features notes of green apple, citrus and a Chablis-like hint of quinine. The racy, intense and nicely detailed middleweight flavors exude evident minerality on the youthfully austere finale that is shaped by citrus-tinged acidity. This is a relatively concentrated example of the appellation that should permit it to be enjoyed young. (88-90)/2024+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a 50/50 split of purchased fruit in En Charlemagne and Les Languettes). A subtle but still perceptible trace of wood sets off slightly riper aromas of white orchard fruit, citrus confit and a pretty floral top note. The more concentrated and powerful yet caressing larger-bodied flavors flash equally good minerality on the clean and very dry though not especially austere finale that displays excellent length. At least moderate patience recommended. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Morey St. Denis “Clos des Monts Luisants Vieilles Vignes”:** (~85% of the blend is from very old vines and 15% is from vines planted in 2006; the malo finished in 2020, which doesn’t occur all the time). Here too there is just enough wood framing the vaguely exotic aromas of orange peel, exotic tea and more prominent floral scents. There is a lovely texture to the admirably dense medium-bodied flavors that also exude a subtle minerality on the bone-dry and saliva-inducing finale. This is very tightly coiled and a wine that will need extended keeping, indeed it should be more than capable of holding for several decades if desired. (90-93)/2031+

**2020 Morey St. Denis “Clos des Monts Luisants Vieilles Vignes”:** (~85% of the blend is from very old vines and 15% is from vines planted in 2006; the malo finished in 2020, which doesn’t occur all the time). An exuberantly spicy nose blends notes of citrus rind with those of green apple and spice, especially anise. There is excellent verve to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that exude an almost bracing minerality on the attractively textured, clean and very dry finale. This could use better depth but given the impeccable aging potential the Clos des Monts Luisants has historically demonstrated, more complexity will almost certainly develop. 91/2027+

### **Laurent Ponsot (Gilly-lès-Cîteaux)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>Bourgogne – Cuvée du Perce Neige</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Cuvée du Kalimeris Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault – Cuvée du Pandoréa</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault-Blagny “1er Cuvée du Myosotis” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Charmes” Cuvée de la Centaurée 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Genevrières” Cuvée de l’Ipomée 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➔ Meursault “Perrières” Cuvée de l’Hellébore 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

For more information about how Laurent Ponsot's new endeavor continues to evolve and some brief comments about the 2020 vintage, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), UK).

**2020 Bourgogne – Cuvée du Perce Neige:** (a Perce Neige is a snowdrop). Attractively fresh and bright aromas include those of petrol, straw, apple and citrus rind. The delicious middleweight flavors possess good verve while culminating in a clean and appealingly dry if not especially complex finale. To enjoy upon release. 86/now+

**2020 Meursault – Cuvée du Pandoréa:** (a Pandoréa is a Bower plant). A very Meursault nose features notes of hazelnut, floral nuances and a mix of white orchard fruit. I very much like the energy and texture of the acceptably dense medium weight flavors that conclude in a lightly austere and stony finish that exhibits notably better depth and persistence. This also possesses good development potential and this is worth considering. 89/2027+

**2020 Meursault-Blagny “1er Cuvée du Myosotis”:** (the Myosotis is commonly known as Forget-Me-Not flowers). Here the expressive nose flirts with exoticism in the form of apricot, white peach and a hint of lychee on the more classic aromas of acacia blossom and essence of pear. There is both better volume and a bit more intensity as well to the medium-bodied flavors that deliver solid depth and persistence on the nicely dry and youthfully austere finale. 91/2027+

**2020 Meursault “Charmes” Cuvée de la Centaurée:** (a Centaurée is a cornflower). A more elegant, pure and beautifully layered nose reflects notes of honeysuckle, crushed fennel, spiced tea and apple. The sleek, intense and slightly more refined middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the focused, dry, clean and youthfully austere finale. Lovely. 92/2028+

**2020 Meursault “Genevrières” Cuvée de l'Ipomée:** (the Ipomée has many species but a common one is the Morning Glory). The classic notes of exotic Asian-style tea can be found on the pure aromas of essence of acacia blossom, pear and a whiff of orange peel. The rich, generously proportioned and even more refined and more mineral-driven medium weight flavors display fine depth and persistence on the balanced, clean and nicely dry finale. Note that this could both be enjoyed young or held for 5 to 8 years. 92/2027+

**2020 Meursault “Perrières” Cuvée de l'Hellébore:** (a Hellébore is just that though the more common names of Lenten rose and buttercups are examples). Cooler and more restrained aromas are comprised by notes of wet stone, green apple, white flower and a pretty array of subtle spice elements. The sleek, even chiseled, medium-bodied flavors brim with minerality that adds a sense of lift to the almost painfully intense, bone-dry, compact and built-to-age finale. In contrast to the relatively open textures of the Charmes and Genevrières, this is clearly going to require at least some patience. Excellent. 93/2028+

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne Cuvée du Kalimeris:** (Kalimeris is a genus of plants in the sunflower family; the blend is from all three communes). Subtle if easily perceptible hints of menthol and wood toast frames the ripe but cool aromas of exotic tea, acacia blossom and crushed fennel. On the palate there is excellent underlying tension and minerality on the acceptably dense medium weight flavors that flash excellent delineation on the tightly coiled finish. This solidly powerful effort is a classic CC that should age accordingly yet isn't so backward or compact that it couldn't be approached after only 5 to 7 years of keeping. 94/2030+

#### **Domaine de la Pousse d'Or (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>

For more information about the 2021 vintage *chez* Pousse d'Or, see Issue 90 or the Burghound database. The 2021 whites were bottled in January 2023 and I tasted them at the beginning of March. (Langdon-Shiverick, [www.shiverick.com](http://www.shiverick.com), CA, North Berkeley Imports, [www.northberkeleyimports.com](http://www.northberkeleyimports.com), CA, Ideal Wines, [www.idealwine.us](http://www.idealwine.us), MA, Classified Wine & Spirits, LLC, [www.classifiedwine.net](http://www.classifiedwine.net), TX, Terroir Selections, [www.terroir-selections.com](http://www.terroir-selections.com), FL, all USA).

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** (from a .70 ha parcel; raised in 350-liter barrels). Cool and admirably pure aromas include those of just cut green apple, citrus zest and fresh acacia blossom scents. The succulent and rich but quite punchy medium-bodied flavors brim with minerality that carries over to the moderately austere and nicely dry finish that delivers fine persistence. It could though use better depth but based on the underlying material, that appears to be more a question of a few years of patience. 92/2029+



**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a .125 ha parcel). This is both more aromatically elegant and a bit cooler as well with its spicy aromas of white flower, citrus and apple. There is excellent power and equally good minerality to the highly refined flavors that aren't quite as rich but even so, it's indisputably clear that there is more here, particularly on the superbly long finish. While this could also use better depth, that is also simply a question of having a bit of forbearance. In a word, terrific. 95/2031+

### **Domaine Jacques Prieur (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune "1er" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Beaune "Grèves" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Clos de Mazeray"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Meursault "Santenots" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Combettes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>

For more insight on the 2021 vintage from technical director and winemaker Nadine Gublin, please see Issue 90 or the Burghound Database. Specifically with respect to the whites, Gublin briefly noted that "we continued our policy of doing zero lees stirring as it was clear from the beginning that the wines were going to be rich and concentrated. Moreover, due to the tiny yields, ripeness levels were quite good as most wines tested out in the upper 12% to a high of 13.3% so nothing was chaptalized. Yields though were derisory and there will be no Meursault "Perrières" or Chevalier-Montrachet. On the plus side, the 2021s are ultra-pure and as such, they have some of the best transparency to the underlying terroir that we have enjoyed in several vintages. 2020 is probably a more complete vintage for the whites but if what you're after is energy and just sheer transparency, the 2021s will be hard to beat." I couldn't agree more with Gublin's sentiments as there are several excellent wines in the range and in particular, the Bourgogne is really impressive for its level. Gublin further notes that the whites will be bottled without fining or filtration. Readers should also take a look herein at a *négociant* partnership between Domaine Prieur and co-owner and general director Edouard Labruière that is called Labruière-Prieur Sélection. (Frederick Wildman, [www.frederickwildman.com](http://www.frederickwildman.com), NY, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com), LCBO, [www.lcbo.com](http://www.lcbo.com) and Philippe Danduran Wines, [www.vinsdandurand.com](http://www.vinsdandurand.com), all Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (from young vines). Layered and very fresh aromas include those of various white orchard fruit, petrol and a discreet spice wisp. There is unusually good density to the rich and surprisingly powerful medium weight flavors that deliver excellent depth and persistence. This is a **serious Bourgogne of impressive quality** plus it should repay several years of keeping. (87-89)/2026+

**2021 Beaune "Grèves":** (the third harvest from very young vines). A much more floral-inflected nose freely offers up its aromas of cool and ripe pear, apple and zest. There is good richness if not quite the same density to the more finely textured middleweight flavors that conclude in a crunchy bitter lemon-tinged finale. Lovely and understated. (88-91)/2028+

**2021 Beaune "1er":** (from Champ Pimont, Clos de la Féguine and Coucheries ). A touch of matchstick character can be found on the cool and pure aromas of acacia blossom and various white fleshed fruit along with a floral top note. There is both a bit more volume and mid-palate density to the more mineral-driven flavors that conclude in a more compact and slightly more persistent finale. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Clos de Mazeray":** (from a 3.1 ha monopole). A slightly riper and vaguely exotic nose is comprised by notes of honeysuckle and plenty of floral elements. There is excellent richness to the borderline opulent medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with generous dry extract, all of which contrasts with the chiseled, bitter lemon and compact finale. This is particularly good in 2021 and warmly recommended. (89-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Santenots":** (from 10+ year old vines planted in Les Plures). Restrained though pretty aromas of mineral reduction, citrus and white flowers are complemented by incredibly dense and powerful larger-bodied flavors that completely saturate the palate with dry extract as well as buffering the firm acid spine shaping the youthfully austere and strikingly long finish. This is quite serious and, seriously imposing for its sheer scale and while it won't win any awards for refinement or delicacy, it's exceptionally good plus it should age gracefully for a decade or more. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a 1.5 ha holding). An elegant, pure and ultra-fresh nose offers up notes of lilac, rose petal, white peach, tea and citrus zest. There is a markedly more refined mouthfeel to the utterly delicious and highly seductive medium weight flavors that are more precise, all wrapped in a citrusy, impressively persistent and youthfully austere finale. This is very classy and I particularly like the underlying tension and balance that should also permit this beauty to age effortlessly over the next 12 to 15 years. In a word, excellent. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Montrachet:** (from two parcels measuring .59 ha on the Chassagne side, one of which is in the section known as Dents de Chien; Interestingly one of the parcels is planted to an equivalent density of 14,000 vines per ha, notably higher than the usual 10,000; remarkably enough, only 2 ½ barrels were produced in 2021, which works out to only 9.6 hl/ha). Moderate generous wood stops short of fighting with the ripe, fresh and airy aromas of citrus confit, a plethora of floral elements and plenty of spice wisps. The exceptionally rich, saline and overtly powerful big-bodied flavors that palate staining thanks to the seemingly endless reserves of sappy dry extract that further adds to the sense of concentration of the bone-dry, youthfully austere and strikingly persistent finish. This bitter lemon-inflected Montrachet should also age effortlessly for as long as anyone would reasonably care to let it slumber. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a .22 ha parcel in Le Corton). Here too the relatively generous wood treatment stops just short of fighting with the menthol, wet stone, green apple and pear extract-suffused aromas. There is superb volume, concentration and richness to the full-bodied and overtly mineral-driven flavors that coat the mouth with dry extract, all wrapped in a long and well-balanced finale. This could use better depth but given the underlying material and how tightly wound it, more complexity is almost certain to progressively develop. (92-95)/2033+

### Domaine Prieur-Brunet (Santenay)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault “Les Forges”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(88-90)</b>
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This old-line estate was purchased by Louis Jadot, which will still issue a few wines in both red and white under the Prieur-Brunet label. Please see the section on Jadot for more information about the 2021 vintage as well as distribution.

**2021 Meursault “Les Forges”:** Fresh and bright aromas include those of petrol, pear, apple and a floral top note. There is very good volume to the delicious medium weight flavors that conclude in a distinctly dry and somewhat rustic finale that isn't especially austere. This should be approachable young but also be capable of repaying mid-term keeping. (88-90)/2027+

### Domaine Henri Prudhon et Fils (St. Aubin)

<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Chardonnay “En Jorcul”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Chassagne-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Puligny-Montrachet “La Rue Aux Vaches”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ St. Aubin “1er” Cuvée Frisson d’Avril 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Sur Gamay” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>St. Aubin “Les Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>

Vincent Prudhon succinctly described the results of the 2021 vintage as “one where we basically got crushed by the frost. The temperatures in a number of our vineyards descended to as low as -7° C and cost us about 60% of the potential production in chardonnay. Thereafter the season wasn't any easier as there was easily the most disease pressure of any vintage since 2016. Even so, and probably due to the tiny yields, maturities were actually pretty good as potential alcohols averaged right at 12.5%. We picked from the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and happily the fruit was clean so there was very little sorting required and what there was mostly involved underripe berries. We had no trouble with either fermentation and overall, the quality is quite good if not genuinely amazing. The style of the 2021s will most please those who enjoy classic white with good but not really high acidities.” Prudhon noted that because of the reduced quantities that a number of vineyards were combined so the usual range of individual wines was not produced in 2021. I have noted this before but the Prudhon wines offer excellent quality for the money and several of them are particularly good in 2021. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), Peter Graham Wines, [www.petergrahamwines.com](http://www.petergrahamwines.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com) and Ball Brothers,

[www.merchant.ballsbrothers.co.uk](http://www.merchant.ballsbrothers.co.uk), all UK; SAQ, [www.saq.com](http://www.saq.com) and Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.seguinrobillard.ca](http://www.seguinrobillard.ca), both Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A spicy and very fresh nose freely offers up its array of green apple, citrus and discreet spice wisps. The delicious, highly energetic and lightly stony middleweight flavors conclude in a nicely dry, clean and sneaky long and refreshing finale. This is lovely and I particularly like the crunchy fruit. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay “En Jorcul”:** A different aromatic profile presents notes of petrol, pear and pretty white flower scents. There is fine richness to the caressing and delicious medium weight flavors that display reasonably good length if somewhat limited depth on the dry, clean and lemony finish. 86/2024+

**2021 St. Aubin:** (in 2021, this cuvée combines all of the *villages*-level vineyards so there is no Le Ban). There is just enough reduction present to mask the nuances of the mostly white fleshed fruit scents. By contrast, there is excellent punch and freshness to the more obviously mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that also terminate in a clean and dry but more complex finale. This is fleshy enough to be enjoyed young or it could also be successfully cellared for 2 to 3 years first. 88/2025+

**2021 St. Aubin “Les Perrières”:** (from 25+ year old vines). Super-fresh and distinctly cool aromas are comprised by notes of petrol, mineral reduction, various white orchard fruit and a whiff of acacia blossom. The succulent, round and plump middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality that adds a sense of lift to the clean, dry and lingering finale. This could use a bit more depth but a few years of cellaring should help. 89/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “Sur Gamay”:** A slightly riper and more floral-suffused nose speaks mostly of citrus and green apple. There is again fine volume and mid-palate density to the utterly delicious medium weight flavors that also possess a seductive mouthfeel while delivering fine persistence on the lemony and nicely dry finale. 89/2026+

**2021 St. Aubin “1er” Cuvée Frisson d’Avril:** (this is a cuvée that combines five 1ers and the name is a play on words that literally means the shiver of April in reference to the devastating frost). Slightly riper aromas are composed by notes of just sliced pear, apple compote, citrus confit and a whiff of anise. The dense and very rich, even opulent, medium-bodied flavors that display excellent length as well as slightly better depth. Lovely and worth considering. 91/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet:** (in 2021 this combines Les Houillères and the 1er Chenevottes in a roughly 50/50 proportion). Cool and beautifully layered aromas display hints of smoke and rosemary oil on the ripe and fresh essence of pear scents. There is again excellent richness and mid-palate density to the solidly powerful medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the lingering, balanced, clean and nicely dry finale. While this could use better depth, the overall quality is impressive for a *villages*-level wine, even one that is 50% 1er. Worth considering. 91/2027+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Rue Aux Vaches”:** A more floral-inflected nose features notes of citrus zest, crushed fennel, apple and pretty floral nuances. The racy and utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors brim with sappy dry extract that imparts a seductive texture as well as buffers the moderately firm acid spine shaping the lingering and balanced finale. This admirably dense effort isn’t particularly refined and it too could use better depth but the innate class of Puligny is still prominent. Worth considering. (89-91)/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** This is aromatically similar to the Rue aux Vaches but with a bit more spiciness in evidence as well as at subtle application of wood. There is again very good volume as well as underlying tension to the delicious if not quite as concentrated middleweight flavors that possess slightly better depth and persistence on the balanced finale. (89-92)/2027+

#### **Domaine Pascal Prunier-Bonheur (Meursault)**

2021	➔ Auxey-Duresses Vieilles Vignes	white	89
2021	➔ Auxey-Duresses “Les Crais”	white	89
2021	Beaune “Clos St. Désirée”	white	88
2021	➔ Meursault “Les Clous”	white	90
2021	Monthélie “Les Toisières”	white	87
2021	St. Romain “La Combe Bazin”	white	88

The understated, indeed almost shy, Pascal Prunier-Bonheur is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation winemaker from Auxey-Duresses who is in charge of this 8 ha domaine where the production is divided half and half between reds and whites. Most of the production is

from owned vines though there is a small *négociant* operation as well. Like so many of his colleagues in 2021, Prunier-Bonheur described the growing season as “exceptionally difficult. The frost was a terrible way to start the season for obvious reasons though because we have always been particularly late to prune, we suffered slightly less damage than most and especially so for our pinot vines. Thereafter we were reasonably successful in beating back several waves of intense disease pressure and as such, we had less sorting to do when we began picking on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. Yields were highly variable but generally low as the reds came in between -40 and -80% lower than normal and the whites were largely a disaster at -60 to -90%. I did a lighter, but not really light, vinification and used some whole clusters for a few wines during a three-week cuvaizon. Overall, I like the style of the 2021 vintage as it’s old school in its purity and energy but with clean and balanced wines.” I agree with Prunier’s take as his wines are indeed exactly as he describes. He further noted that the whites were bottled in February 2023 and I tasted them only two weeks later. (Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, USA).

**2021 St. Romain “La Combe Bazin”:** There is a touch of post-bottling reduction present that is enough to mask the underlying fruit. Otherwise, there is excellent intensity to the stony and delicious middleweight flavors that deliver fine length on the clean and dry finale. This could use better depth but a year or two of keeping should help in that regard. 88/2025+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses “Les Crais”:** This is even cooler and more reserved with its nose of citrus zest, green apple and smoky mineral reduction wisps. There is almost painful intensity to the beautifully detailed and even stonier medium weight flavors that conclude in a chiseled, youthfully austere and linear finale. This slightly rustic effort is really quite good and it should make for excellent drinking with 5-ish or so years of cellaring. 89/2027+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses Vieilles Vignes:** (from Les Fosses and Les Closeaux). Here the nose is quite similar to that of the Les Crais though the mineral reduction component is a bit more prominent. The beautifully concentrated and almost as mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors possess a caressing mouthfeel along with plenty of punch that carries over to the lingering and slightly less rustic finale. This is also quite good and blind, it could easily pass for a *villages* Meursault. 89/2027+

**2021 Beaune “Clos St. Désirée”:** Airy and again notably cool aromas include those of lemon zest, pear and apple compote as well as hint of petrol. There is fine punch to the seductive and delicious middleweight flavors that contrast somewhat with the overtly austere and slightly short bitter lemon-inflected finish. I suspect that the shortness is more due to the recent bottling than under ripeness and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt. 88/2026+

**2021 Monthélie “Les Toisières”:** Very firm reduction completely flattens the nose today. More appealing are the plump and round but solidly punchy medium weight flavors that possess a seductive mid-palate texture that also contrasts with the somewhat short and disjointed finish. This also is likely not showing its best due to the recent bottling but with that said, it’s pretty awkward and thus more difficult to offer the benefit of the doubt. 87/2026+

**2021 Meursault “Les Clous”:** A distinctly floral-suffused nose enjoys added breadth in the form of cool essence of pear and white peach-suffused aromas. There is outstanding density to the beautifully textured and markedly more mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that flash impressive depth and persistence on the bone-dry and slightly rustic finale. This is excellent for its level and absolutely worth considering – moreover it could reasonably be approached young if desired. 90/2028+

#### **Domaine Jean-Claude Ramonet (Chassagne-Montrachet)**

2019	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	95
2019	Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	94
2019	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets” 1er	white	93
2019	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets” 1er	white	94
2019	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot” 1er	white	91
2019	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Ruchottes” 1er	white	93
2019	Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers” 1er	white	89
2019	Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	95
2019	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	97
2019	Puligny-Montrachet “Champs Canet” 1er	white	93

Pierre Ramonet arrived in Burgundy in the late 1920s and began to earn money by buying and vinifying grapes. Land values were low at the time and he began to accumulate vineyard plots, with his first purchase within the Ruchottes vineyard in 1934. In 1978, his crowning achievement was the purchase of a .26 ha plot of Montrachet on the Puligny side, one of only 4 owners on that side of the Chassagne-Puligny divide. Passing the reins to his son André, who died in 2011, and subsequently

to his grandchildren, Noël and Jean-Claude. With the 2014 vintages, the name changed from Domaine Ramonet to Domaine Jean-Claude Ramonet as Noël chose to lease his vineyards to his brother. (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), Farr Vintners, [www.farrvintners.com](http://www.farrvintners.com), O.W. Loeb, [www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), La Réserve and Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), all UK).

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”:** Ripe yet fresh aromas include those of petrol, white and yellow peach and discreet wood hints. There is excellent mid-palate density to the rich but nicely vibrant medium-bodied flavors that offer very good depth and persistence on the borderline rustic finale. This version of the Ramonet Morgeot could actually be enjoyed young but it should have no trouble delivering up to a decade of improvement. 91/2027+

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Vergers”:** Noticeable wood and prominent petrol-suffused aromas push the underlying ripe fruit to the background. There is very good mid-palate density and excellent punch to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess plenty of sappy dry extract before terminating in a slightly warm finish where a hint of bitterness slowly emerges. This is not without interest but it's not at the level of the best 1ers in the range in 2019. 89/2026+

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”:** Here too there is plenty of petrol character to the cool and nicely layered nose of ripe yellow orchard fruit, resin and rosemary oil. The attractively textured, rich and solidly concentrated medium weight flavors exude a subtle minerality while offering outstanding complexity on the sappy, balanced and sneaky long finish. If you allow this to warm up a touch of warmth slowly emerges but it's a non-issue if the proper serving temperature is maintained. 93/2027+

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet “Clos du Caillerets”:** (a monopole of the domaine located in Vigne Derrière). This is aromatically similar to the ‘regular’ cuvée except here there is more floral influence. The medium-bodied flavors aren't quite as concentrated though they're both noticeably finer as well as more mineral-driven while offering slightly better depth and persistence on the more tightly coiled finale. This classy and balanced effort displays just a touch more sophistication and overall, it's the more complete wine. One to look for. 94/2029+

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Ruchottes”:** (from a .118 ha parcel). Here too there is ample petrol influence on the lightly wooded aromas of pear, apple, crushed anise and a whisper of resin character. There is fine volume, richness and power yet the mouthfeel of the medium weight plus flavors is at once powerful yet refined, all wrapped in a lightly stony, serious and youthfully austere finish. As is virtually always the case with this wine, it's presently quite tightly wound and while it could be approached after only 5-ish years, 10 would definitely be better. 93/2031+

**2019 Puligny-Montrachet “Champs Canet”:** (from a .33 ha parcel). Discreet but not invisible wood is present on the overtly floral-suffused nose that displays background hints of lemon rind and a phenolic character (think olive oil nuances). There is a lovely texture to the medium-bodied and generously proportioned flavors that brim with sappy dry extract, all wrapped in a bitter citrus and impressively long finale where the only reproach is a hint of warmth. 93/2029+

**2019 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .45 ha parcel). A touch of matchstick character is present on the cool if ripe aromas of honeysuckle, carnation, lemon-lime and crushed fennel. The supple and caressing medium weight flavors are rich to the point of opulence with excellent density and punch that carries over to the impressively long and sappy finale where the only reproach is again a touch of warmth. I would not describe the '19 BBM as a classic example from Ramonet but it's extremely good nonetheless. 94/2029+

**2019 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .7 ha parcel in Puligny). Here the nose is firmly reduced so in the unlikely event you're interested in opening a bottle right away, be sure to give it 30 minutes or so of air and decanting it would be better still. Otherwise, there is slightly better underlying energy to the rich yet nicely detailed, even precise, middleweight plus flavors that also deliver impressive length on the bitter lemon-inflected finale. While this isn't as structured as it usually is, it's still going to need close to a decade if you wish to see the '19 Bâtard at its peak. 95/2029+

**2019 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a .09 ha parcel). This is also sufficiently reduced to mask all but background hints of wood and citrus so I would offer the same guidance here as with the Bâtard, e.g., a thorough aeration would definitely be beneficial. There is again excellent volume and richness, even a certain opulence, to the more prominent mineral-inflected larger-bodied flavors that flash superb length where the only nit is a touch of warmth. This isn't a classic Chevalier in that it's exceptionally rich though on the plus side, it should be approachable earlier than would be typical for a Ramonet Chevy. 95/2029+

**2019 Montrachet:** (from a .26 ha parcel in Puligny). Smoky and lightly oaky aromas include those of most floral, ripe apple compote, Asian-style tea and a broad range of spice nuances. There is excellent size, weight and mid-palate density to the bigger-bodied yet refined flavors that exude a more subtle bead of minerality on the beautifully textured, mouthcoating and hugely long finale that offers better depth as there is just more here. This is doubly impressive in that unlike most vintages of the iconic Ramonet Montrachet, this could actually be enjoyed after only a few years of bottling aging, such is the suppleness of the mid-palate. With that said, this will clearly be more interesting a decade hence. 97/2031+



### Domaine Rapet Père et Fils (Pernand-Vergelesses)

2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	86
2021	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	92
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "En Caradeux" 1er	white	90
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "Les Combottes"	white	88
2021	Pernand-Vergelesses "Le Clos du Village" 1er	white	88

Yet another domaine is in the process of transferring responsibilities from one generation to the next as Vincent Rapet is progressively doing just that with his son Robin. The younger Rapet conducted the tasting and told me that 2021 "was a tough vintage with very low yields, but from my standpoint, it's just as well that they were low because if not, nothing would have reached acceptable maturity levels. We picked from the 20<sup>th</sup> of September and the whites were off fully 70% while the reds fared a bit better at 'only' off 50%. We did a very careful sorting as it was super-important to be working only with the cleanest lees, be it red or white. As such we did a thorough lees settling for both colors but in particular, the whites had a sort of asparagus and cabbage odor, which was obviously necessary to get rid of! For the reds, we chose to do our normal vinification using 30 to 40% whole clusters. I was worried that the reds might be too acidic but in fact, not at all as the malos had their desired effect as did the *élevage*. I actually like the style of the vintage quite a bit, especially for its energy and freshness." (DC Flynt MW Selections, [www.dcflyntmw.com](http://www.dcflyntmw.com), LA, USA; Domaine et Saveurs, [www.ds-collection.com](http://www.ds-collection.com), France; L'Assemblage, [www.lassemblage.co.uk](http://www.lassemblage.co.uk) and Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk) UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** A cool and distinctly citrusy nose speaks mainly of green apple scents. The racy and delicious flavors possess excellent precision as well as reasonable length on the slightly lean and crisp finale. To enjoy young for its fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Les Combottes":** A discreet application of wood sets off equally cool aromas of grapefruit, petrol and a similar hint of green apple. There is excellent richness to the utterly delicious and succulent middleweight flavors that flash an overt minerality that adds a sense of lift to the clean, dry and youthfully austere finale. Note that this could certainly be enjoyed young or held for a few years first in the hopes that more depth will develop. 88/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Le Clos du Village":** (a monopole of the domaine). Here too there is a discreet application of wood framing the smoky aromas of petrol and white fleshed fruit. The caressing and round, indeed almost plump, mouthfeel of the even more overtly mineral-driven flavors contrasts noticeably with the more youthfully austere and notably dry finale. This too could be enjoyed young or successfully cellared for a few years. 88/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "En Caradeux":** Pungent aromas of wood toast and moderate reduction given the underlying fruit no chance at present. More interesting are the notably bigger-bodied and more concentrated medium-bodied flavors that flash excellent punch that carries over to the unusually powerful, stony and sneaky long finish. In contrast to the prior wines, all of which could be enjoyed young, this would best be aged for at least a few years first. 90/2027+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (90% of the fruit comes from En Charlemagne in Pernand with the remainder from Le Charlemagne in Aloxe; the total holding is 3 ha). A more restrained nose grudgingly reflects its aromas of strong petrol and mineral reduction with background hints of citrus zest and oak. There is fine mid-palate density to the tautly muscular broad-shouldered flavors that also exude evident minerality on the tightly coiled, lingering and balanced finale. This could use better depth so like the En Caradeux, at least a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 92/2029+

### Domaine Michèle et Patrice Rion (Prémeaux-Prissey)

2021	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	(86-88)
2021	Nuits St. Georges "Les Terres Blanches" 1er	white	(90-92)

Please see Issue 89, or the Burghound database, for the harvest details and Maxime Rion's perspective on the 2021 vintage. (True North Wine Merchants, [www.truenorthwines.com](http://www.truenorthwines.com), CA, Chelsea Ventures, LLC, [www.chelseaventures.us](http://www.chelseaventures.us), IL, USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), both UK; Enoteca Co Ltd., [www.enoteca.co.jp](http://www.enoteca.co.jp), Japan; Wangfu Wine, [www.wangfu-wine.com](http://www.wangfu-wine.com), Taiwan; Burgundy, Etc., [www.etcwineshops.com](http://www.etcwineshops.com), Hong Kong; Bichel Vine, [www.bichel.dk](http://www.bichel.dk), Denmark; and Moestue Grape Selection, [www.moestue.com](http://www.moestue.com), Norway).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (to be bottled under screwcap). An ultra-fresh nose combines those of Granny Smith apples with a nicely broad array of citrus nuances. There is both good volume and vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors where the bone-dry finish is shaped by grapefruit-tinged acidity. This isn't exactly lean though it flirts with it as it's not especially generous either. This is a wine that should drink well basically upon release. (86-88)/now+

**2021 Nuits St. Georges "Les Terres Blanches":** (90% chardonnay and the remainder is pinot blanc). A deft dollop of wood sets off the ripe, fresh and cool aromas that also display plenty of citrus character. There is again excellent volume and punch to the beautifully detailed and overtly stony medium weight flavors that exhibit a similar finish that is bone-dry and lemony but in contrast to the Bourgogne, it does not lean out as it sits on the palate. (90-92)/2026+

### **Domaine Rollin Père et Fils (Pernand-Vergelesses)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Aligoté</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pernand-Vergelesses</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pernand-Vergelesses – Les Cloux</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Pernand-Vergelesses "Sous Frétille" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>

Rémi Rollin has now officially retired in favor of his son Simon, who joined the domaine in 2003. The younger Rollin called 2021 "another vintage that was *très compliqué*. There was the frost followed by the growing season from hell so both we, and the vines, were basically stressed from start to finish. We chose to begin picking on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and despite all of the problems, we actually brought in fruit with good maturities, just not much of it as yields were off 70% in total and the whites were even worse at -80%! There was some sorting necessary, mainly for oidium, but once everything substandard was eliminated, the potential alcohols ranged between 11.5 and 12.5% we chaptalized around .5%. Because the fruit was more homogenously ripe than in 2016, it was easier to vinify as we were less concerned about extracting underripe elements. I was initially worried that we might not obtain reasonable colors for the pinot but even though they were slow to emerge during the vinifications, they eventually did so I worried for nothing. In one minor change, we used zero new wood for the whites and much less than normal for the reds. In sum, 2021 was horrific in the vines but pretty much a piece of cake in the cellar." Rollin noted that the 2020 whites were bottled between August and November 2022. (Rosenthal Wine Merchant, [www.madrose.com](http://www.madrose.com), NY, USA; Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.sequinrobillard.ca](http://www.sequinrobillard.ca), Canada; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** A very aligoté nose freely reflects its notes of citrus, green apple and plenty of spice wisps. The lemony, clean and crisp middleweight flavors offer better than average depth and persistence on the ultra-refreshing bone-dry finale. This is very good for what it is and worth a look. 87/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune:** This is also exceptionally fresh with its aromas of grapefruit, Granny Smith apples and crushed anise. There is fine volume and mid-palate density to the light stony flavors that terminate in precise and chiseled finish that is quite dry but not really austere. Note that this has enough development potential to repay 2 to 3 years of keeping. 87/2025+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses:** (from En Caradeux, Belles Filles and Sur Herbeaux). A more restrained if similar nose leads to dense, palate coating and very punchy medium weight flavors that also conclude in a lemony, clean and decidedly dry finish that displays only a touch of youthful austerity. This could however use better depth so a few years of cellaring should be helpful. 88/2026+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses – Les Cloux:** (from two *lieux-dits* – Le Devant des Cloux and Sous les Cloux). Moderately firm reduction and wood suppress the underlying fruit at present so a thorough aeration is in order if you're going to try a bottle young. Otherwise, there is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the sleek mineral-suffused flavors that are also quite clean and lemony on the bone-dry finale. This too would benefit from a few years of keeping to help add depth but provided that you're going to cellar it for a few years, this is recommended. 89/2027+

**2021 Pernand-Vergelesses "Sous Frétille":** A pungent nose is also comprised by firm reduction and wood toast. There is a bit more volume to the utterly delicious and more refined medium-bodied flavors that possess fine mid-palate density while exuding evident minerality on the moderately austere, crunchy and very dry finale. This is excellent and while it will also need a few years of cellaring, it should be well worth the wait. Recommended. 92/2028+

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (50% of the blend is from Le Charlemagne in Aloxe-Corton and the remainder is from En Charlemagne in Pernand-Vergelesses; the two parcels total .49 ha). An admirably discreet application of wood can be found on the elegant and airy aromas of green apple, white flower and plenty of mineral reduction character. There is strikingly good power and volume to the notably bigger-bodied flavors that possess a chiseled cuts-like-a-knife finish that is sneaky long and impeccably well-balanced. This is terrific and perhaps the best Rollin CC in some years. 94/2031+

#### **Domaine de la Romanée-Conti (Vosne-Romanée)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>98</b>

Please see Issue 85 or the appropriate Burghound.com database entries for co-director Aubert de Villaine's detailed description of the 2020 vintage as well as additional comments from co-directors Bertrand de Villaine and Perrine Fenal. Fans of the domaine will note the presence of the second vintage of the Corton-Charlemagne, which is a brilliant follow-up to the equally good 2019 version. The whites, which were aged in 100% new wood, were bottled in April, 2022 (Wilson & Daniels, [www.wilsondaniels.com](http://www.wilsondaniels.com), CA, USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com) and Planet Wines, [www.planetofwine.com](http://www.planetofwine.com), all UK; Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.seguinrobillard.ca](http://www.seguinrobillard.ca), Canada).

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from 4 different parcels in both Aloxe and Pernand). There is enough wood to merit mentioning but not so much as to overshadow the vaguely exotic and ripe aromas of white peach, apple compote, various citrus elements and a whiff of acacia blossom. The wood is also reflected by the big-bodied, powerful and overtly muscular flavors that possess outstanding richness that is buffered by both a firm minerality as well as bright acidity on the strikingly persistent, balanced and robust finale. This is not a CC of refinement but it is indisputably impressive in its fashion and a wine that should age and improve gracefully over the next 12 to 15 years and last thereafter for a similar period. In a word, superb. 96/2032+

**2020 Montrachet:** (from 3 parcels on the Chassagne side that total .68 ha). A more subtle though still easily perceptible application of oak still easily allows the markedly spicier and prominent petrol scents to be appreciated. The exceptionally rich, concentrated and impressively constituted broad-shouldered yet refined flavors display outstanding power and drive on the focused, firm and hugely long finish. This is an opulent Montrachet but one that is clearly built to repay extended keeping. One of the great wines of the 2020 vintage that should age and improve over the next 30 to 40 years. In short, this is positively brilliant. 98/2035+

#### **Domaine Joseph Roty (Gevrey-Chambertin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Bourgogne</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Marsannay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay – Rosé</b>	<b>rosé</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Marsannay – Rosé</b>	<b>rosé</b>	<b>87</b>

To have Pierre-Jean Roty's views on the 2021 growing season, please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database. Roty further noted the now in-bottle 2020s revisited below, were bottled between April and May 2022, without fining or filtration. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), CA, Alain Junguenet Selections/Wines of France, Mountainside, NJ, USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com), Robert Rolls & Co., [www.robertrolls.com](http://www.robertrolls.com) and Private Cellar Ltd., [www.privatecellar.co.uk](http://www.privatecellar.co.uk), UK; Shanghai Vinchamp International Trading Co. Ltd., [www.vinchamp.com](http://www.vinchamp.com), Shanghai, China).

#### **Whites:**

**2021 Bourgogne:** (90% of the blend is from pinot blanc). Citrus trimmed aromas include those of petrol, straw and just sliced apple. There is both good richness and volume to the nicely punchy middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean and dry but not especially austere finish where a touch of rusticity slowly emerges. To enjoy young. (86-88)/now+

**2021 Marsannay:** (from Le Boivin and Champs St. Etienne). A fresh and airy mix is comprised by notes of essence of pear, apple and a touch of orange zest. Here too there is both good richness and volume to the attractively vibrant flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the citrusy, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This too should drink well young. (87-89)/2024+

**2020 Bourgogne:** (90% of the blend is from pinot blanc). A vaguely exotic nose of essence of pear, passion fruit and citrus confit leads to round, plump and fleshy flavors that possess acceptable verve on the sneaky long and ever-so-mildly sweet finish. This generously proportioned effort should drink well immediately upon release. 86/now+

**2020 Marsannay:** (from Le Boivin and Champs St. Etienne). Aromas of green apple, white peach and citrus confit nuances lead to middleweight flavors that are a combination of energy and moderate refinement while exuding a subtle minerality on the bitter lemon-inflected finish that is also ever-so-mildly sweet. This too should drink well shortly after release. 87/2024+

### Rosés:

**2021 Marsannay – Rosé:** (made from a direct pressing with no maceration or must bleeding). A discreetly fruit and fresh nose is comprised by mostly red berry and soft spice nuances. The nicely rich and plump, even fleshy, middleweight flavors are quite delicious while concluding in a refreshing easy-going if not especially complex finale. A quaffable rosé. (86-88)/now+

**2020 Marsannay – Rosé:** (made from a direct pressing with no maceration or must bleeding). Here the expressive nose is quite floral with its aromas of pretty red raspberry, strawberry and cherry plus equally discreet spice whiffs. There is better than average density to the delicious and attractively textured flavors that possess fine depth and persistence on the highly refreshing finish. This is actually quite good and would make a good summer sipper. 87/now+

### Domaine Roulot (Meursault)

2021	➔ Auxey-Duresses	white	(89-92)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	87
2021	➔ Bourgogne Blanc	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Meursault	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Clos des Bouchères” 1er	white	(93-95)
2021	➔ Meursault “Charmes” 1er	white	(94-96)
2021	➔ Meursault “Les Luchets”	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Les Meix Chavaux”	white	(91-93)
2021	➔ Meursault “Narvaux”	white	(90-93)
2021	➔ Meursault “Perrières” 1er	white	(94-97)
2021	➔ Meursault “Le Porusot” 1er	white	(92-95)
2021	➔ Meursault “A Mon Plaisir – Clos du Haut Tesson”	white	(92-94)
2021	➔ Meursault “Tillets”	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Meursault “Les Vireuils”	white	(90-93)

Jean-Marc Roulot minced no words saying that “the 2021 growing season is frankly one of the worst that I have ever endured. There was obviously the devastating early April frost, which was a less than auspicious debut. But just as bad was the disease pressure that followed. The frost-affected vines, even those which didn’t seem to have suffered, were definitely weakened. We managed to control the mildew reasonably well but the oidium was the worst that I have ever seen, even worse than in 2004. We finally made it to the harvest, which began on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and continued through to the 28<sup>th</sup>. Yields were, in the best of cases, off 50% due to the frost but most were off at least 70%. At least potential alcohols were good at between 12.5 and 13.2% so nothing was chaptalized. I pressed very slowly and carefully and even then, the lees were not to my liking so we did an extended settling process to eliminate any of them that weren’t pristine. Otherwise, there were no problems with the fermentations and while initially the wines seemed to lack personality, once the malos were finished they have gone from strength to strength. In fact, I can enthusiastically say that I love the 2021 vintage as it’s old school, and in a way like the vintages that I grew up with.” It would be the understatement of the year to note that Roulot’s whites are world class but he has outdone himself in 2021 as every wine is highly recommended. Fans will be excited to see the reappearance of the Les Tillets since its absence due to the vines being pulled up after the 2015 harvest. See also the review for Roulot’s *négociant* Corton-Charlemagne immediately below. Lastly, because the yields were so low, **many of the wines will be bottled exclusively in magnum**, which includes the Vireuils, Meix Chavaux, Luchets, Narvaux, Tillets, Tessons, Porusot, Charmes, Bouchères and Perrières. Moreover, several of the wines will be set aside at the domaine and only commercialized at a later date to be determined; these include the Perrières Charmes, Tessons and Tillets, plus the Corton-Charlemagne on the *négociant* side. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY,

both USA; Noble Rot, [www.noblerot.co.uk](http://www.noblerot.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Clarion Wines, [www.clarionwines.co.uk](http://www.clarionwines.co.uk), Latimer Vintners, [www.latimervintners.com](http://www.latimervintners.com), all UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Smoke-tinged aromas include those of spice, green apple and a variety of citrus elements. There is a beguiling texture to the delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors that terminate in an agreeably dry, clean and bitter lemon-inflected finish. Good quality here and worth considering. 87/2026+

**2021 Bourgogne Blanc:** (Roulot noted that 30 to 40% of the blend was raised in stainless steel). Here too there is a background smoky hint to the aromas of apple and pear along with a floral top note. The delicious and vibrant flavors aren't quite as dense but they're finer while exhibiting a touch of youthful austere on the citrusy finale. (86-89)/2026+

**2021 Auxey-Duresses:** (90% from Les Hautés and the remainder from Les Fosses). Cool, airy and ultra-fresh aromas also freely display their notes of Granny Smith apples, white flower and wet stone. The super-sleek and almost painfully intense medium-bodied flavors brim with an almost aggressive minerality before concluding in a very dry, precise and lingering but not especially austere finale. This offers excellent quality for an Auxey *villages* and this too is recommended. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Meursault:** (60% of the blend is from Clos de la Baronne with the rest from Les Crotots, Les Gruyaches, Narvaux and Sous la Velle). Cool and wonderfully pure aromas consist mostly of white fleshed fruit, hazelnut and a suggestion of acacia blossom. There is slightly better volume, though not the same minerality, to be found on the utterly delicious medium weight flavors that possess a more refined texture that carries over to the sneaky long and exquisitely balanced finale. This is an excellent Meursault *villages* and well worth considering, plus should repay up to a decade of keeping. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Meursault "Les Vireuils":** Here too there is a distinct coolness to the airy and equally pure aromas of Granny Smith apples, lemon-lime, wet stone and a whisper of crushed anise. As is usually the case, the mouthfeel of the middleweight flavors is notably finer and a bit more mineral-driven as well, all of which is wrapped in a tension-filled, chiseled and beautifully persistent finale. This is lovely and I particularly like the balance. Highly recommended. (90-93)/2031+

**2021 Meursault "Les Meix Chavaux":** (this will be bottled only in magnum). A restrained but extremely pretty nose features hints of mineral reduction and citrus zest on the cool aromas of mostly apple and acacia. The racy and utterly delicious medium weight flavors possess a bit more volume if not quite the same minerality on the clean, dry and youthfully austere finale. This impressively long effort could use better depth but in magnum format, that shouldn't be a problem. Excellent and also highly recommended. (91-93)/2036+

**2021 Meursault "Les Luchets":** (this will be bottled only in magnum). Smoky, cool and airy aromas of citrus confit, spice, toasted hazelnut and various white fleshed fruit are trimmed in all but imperceptible wood. The mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is also racy but even a bit more refined while exuding an almost pungent minerality on the wonderfully long and exquisitely balanced finale. This is superb and the **best young Roulot Luchets in many a year**. (91-94)/2036+

**2021 Meursault "Narvaux":** (this will be bottled only in magnum). A distinctly reserved nose requires aggressive swirling to reveal its equally cool aromas of acacia, essence of pear, wet stone and a whiff of just sliced fennel. The strikingly pure and intense flavors possess a gorgeous mouthfeel that is at once plump and fleshy but quite punchy before culminating in a youthfully austere, compact and sneaky long finale. This beauty of a Narvaux should age gracefully for the better part of two decades in large format. (90-93)/2038+

**2021 Meursault "Tillels":** (from a .48 ha parcel of young vines; this will be bottled only in magnum). Firm reduction pushes the underlying fruit to the background. More interesting are the almost painfully intense yet almost delicate middleweight flavors that are like rolling tiny rocks around the mouth while displaying cuts-like-a-knife precision on the bone-dry, balanced and lingering finish that is very compact. This is extremely pretty though it will need to develop better depth. With that said, this is an impressive showing for the first vintage from replanted vines. (90-92)/2039+

**2021 Meursault "A Mon Plaisir – Clos du Haut Tesson":** (from a .80 ha parcel; this will be bottled only in magnum). Roulot noted that he produced only 3 barrels versus his usual 18. A markedly floral nose reflects elegant aromas of pear and apple compote, zest and a suggestion of Asian-style tea. The natural class of what is arguably the best *villages lieu-dit* in Meursault is evident on the beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors that brim with sappy dry extract that imparts a highly seductive mouthfeel while also buffering the firm acid spine shaping the impressively long finale. This is stunningly good and very much built to repay extended keeping. Highly recommended. (92-94)/2039+

**2021 Meursault "Le Porusot":** (from both Porusot Dessous and Dessus; this will be bottled only in magnum). A cool and all-but mute nose grudgingly reveals its layered nose of green apple, citrus zest and discreet floral nuances. There is outstanding density, size, weight and power to the big-bodied flavors that exude a subtle bead of minerality on the sappy and hugely persistent finale. This is textbook Porusot and one that should age accordingly, especially in magnum format. (92-95)/2041+



**2021 Meursault “Charmes”:** (from a 1.4 ha parcel of 70+ year old vines in Charmes Dessous; this will be bottled only in magnum). Firm reduction blocks an assessment of the nose. Otherwise, there is a notably finer mouthfeel to the medium-bodied flavors that are admirably dense as well if not nearly as powerful, all wrapped in a detailed, tension-filled and remarkably persistent finish. This is **flat out superb** and like the Porusot, should age accordingly. (94-96)/2041+

**2021 Meursault “Clos des Bouchères”:** (from a 1.37 ha parcel; this will be bottled only in magnum). Here too there is enough reduction to flatten the underlying fruit. There is a highly attractive sense of underlying tension to the beautifully detailed middleweight flavors that dance across the palate while delivering excellent length on the chiseled, bone-dry and impeccably well-balanced finale. This youthfully austere effort could use better depth but that more should develop is basically a given. This harmonious, even Zen-like, effort is also strikingly good. (93-95)/2039+

**2021 Meursault “Perrières”:** (40+ year old vines; this will be bottled only in magnum). Roulot noted that he produced only 1 barrel versus his usual 7. Once again the nose is cool and airy with its elegant mix of white orchard fruit, in particularly green apple, along with the classic floral and wet stone notes. There is excellent concentration to the relatively powerful medium-bodied flavors that possess a suave mouthfeel, all wrapped in a chiseled, bone-dry and impressively lingering finish that just goes on and on. What really stands out here though is the poise and class as it's just regale plus in magnum format, it should see its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in perfect form. If you can find it, **this is a don't miss wine!** (94-97)/2043+

### **Jean-Marc Roulot (Meursault)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(95-97)</b>
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Jean-Marc Roulot has a small *négociant* operation where he makes small purchases exclusively in the form of fruit rather than must. Please see directly above for his thoughts on the 2021 vintage. Jean-Marc Roulot noted that fruit prices had become almost untenable and that he did not purchase anything from the appellations of Chevalier-Montrachet, Meursault “Genevrières” and Puligny “Les Caillerets” as he has in past vintages. (Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant, [www.kermitlynch.com](http://www.kermitlynch.com), CA, Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, both USA; Noble Rot, [www.noblerot.co.uk](http://www.noblerot.co.uk), Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), both UK; Pearl of Burgundy, [www.pearlofburgundy.com](http://www.pearlofburgundy.com), Hong Kong; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), Australia).

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from Le Charlemagne; note that this will be bottled only in magnum and will be held at the domaine for at least a few years before being offered for sale). Moderate reduction masks everything but a hint of citrus. There is outstanding mid-palate concentration to the big-bodied, tautly muscular and powerful flavors that exude an almost palpable minerality on the highly compact, serious, bone-dry and superbly long finale. This is a stunner of a CC that should age gracefully for years, even decades in large format. (95-97)/2046+

### **Domaine Georges Roumier (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>95</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the appropriate entry in the Burghound.com database for additional details on Christophe Roumier's views of the 2021 vintage. Roumier noted that the 2021 CC was bottled in August 2022. (Terlato Wines International, [www.terlatowines.com](http://www.terlatowines.com), IL and Grand Cru Selections, LLC, [www.grandcruselectionswine.com](http://www.grandcruselectionswine.com), NY, both USA; John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), Howard Ripley, [www.howardripley.com](http://www.howardripley.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Haynes, Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), Gerrard Seel, [www.gerrardseel.co.uk](http://www.gerrardseel.co.uk), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), and The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), all UK; Altaya Wines, [www.altayawines.com](http://www.altayawines.com), Hong Kong).

**2021 Corton-Charlemagne:** (from a .20 ha parcel in Pernand). Cool and ultra-pure aromas include those of spiced Granny Smith apples, lemon rind, crushed fennel and a floral top note. There is outstanding volume to the caressing but punchy and very dense larger-bodied flavors that brim with both minerality and sappy dry extract while delivering strikingly good length on the very dry, bone-dry and exquisitely well-balanced finale. I was knocked out by just how good this is and the '21 CC is **potentially the best Roumier CC in years.** 95/2031+

### Domaine Roux Père & Fils (St. Aubin)

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Côte d'Or</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Bouzeron "Les Fias"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Macherelles" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Morichots"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Meursault "Les Charmes" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Meursault "Les Grands Charrons"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Rully "Les Agnières"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Saint-Aubin "Les Cortons" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Saint-Aubin – Jadis 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>

Roux Père is one of the largest landholders in Burgundy with some 70-ha spread between the Côte d'Or and the Côte Chalonnaise; most impressively, fully 65 of the 70 ha are situated in the Côte d'Or. The domaine's wines are distributed in a number of markets but I did not have specific importer information at the time of Issue 91's release beyond what I list here. (Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), UK).

**2021 Bourgogne Côte d'Or:** Super-fresh aromas include those of green apple, spice and a mix of citrus nuances. The delicious and vibrant flavors possess good if not special density that possess a mildly rustic and bracingly bitter citrus pith finale where, somewhat curiously given the coolness of the '21 vintage, a noticeable touch of warmth. 86/2024+

**2020 Bouzeron "Les Fias":** Smoky aromas of citrus and apple are present on the moderately restrained nose that precedes nicely dense and textured middleweight flavors that possess a prominent salinity that is almost salty on the clean and agreeably dry finale. This delicious effort could be enjoyed young or held for a few years first. 87/2024+

**2020 Rully "Les Agnières":** An interesting nose combines plenty of floral elements with a relatively prominent phenolic character (think olive oil nuances), along with enough wood influence to merit pointing out. There is markedly more volume and mid-palate density to the rich and relatively powerful medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a bracingly bitter citrus zest finish that is bone-dry and youthfully austere that dies away quite quickly as it sits on the palate. This may better harmonize in time but it's fairly awkward today. 86/2025+

**2020 Saint-Aubin – Jadis:** Moderate wood frames ever-so-vaguely exotic aromas of wood, white peach and once again, plenty of phenolic character. There is equally good verve if not quite the same midpalate density to the more mineral-driven middleweight flavors that are very dry with a similarly attenuated, slightly lean and somewhat short finish. Again, it is hard to predict whether a few years of cellaring will help but I would repeat what I said about the Agnières, e.g., that this is fairly awkward. 86/2026+

**2020 Saint-Aubin "Les Cortons":** There is a vaguely Chablis-like combination of quinine and iodine present on the mostly citrus-inflected Granny Smith apple aromas that are trimmed in just enough oak influence to merit pointing out. There is excellent mid-palate density to the suave yet punchy medium weight flavors that possess a trace of attenuation on the very dry and austere finale. Even so, while the balance isn't perfect, it's still better than the prior two wines. 88/2026+

**2020 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Morichots":** Here too there is a hint of quinine to the aromas of petrol, rosemary oil and just sliced citrus. There is a more refined mouthfeel than usual to the plump and fleshy medium-bodied flavors that possess an attractive succulent before terminating in a moderately rustic, powerful and dry finish. This certainly isn't refined but it is certainly frank, bold and direct. 87/2026+

**2020 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Macherelles":** Ripe yet reasonably fresh aromas are comprised mostly by white orchard fruit and rosemary oil along with hints of petrol and wood. There is very good mid-palate density to the medium-bodied, plump and round flavors that possess an appealing texture while delivering good depth and persistence on the moderately dry finish where the only nit is a touch of warmth. I would suggest serving this on the cooler side as it helps to maintain the balance. I would add that this could easily be enjoyed young but a few years of keeping should help to add depth. 90/2026+

**2020 Meursault "Les Grands Charrons":** Pretty white floral aromas are nuanced by hints of citrus, spice, hazelnut and a whiff of fennel that are also trimmed in a touch of wood. There solid concentration to the middleweight flavors that possess good richness and an appealing texture, all wrapped in a dry and like a few wines in the range, a slightly attenuated and lean finish where a touch of warmth slowly emerges. This is perfectly good if a bit rustic. 88/2025+

**2020 Meursault “Les Charmes”:** This is distinctly exotic with notes of lychee, orange peel, pineapple and white peach, along with plenty of phenolic character that are also trimmed in noticeable wood. The wood is also quite apparent on the palate of the acceptably dense medium-bodied flavors that also conclude in a noticeably warm, clean and dry finale. This is not without a certain appeal, but the balance isn't quite as dialed in as it could be. 89/2026+

**2020 Corton-Charlemagne:** There is a marked phenolic component (olive oil hints) to the ripe aromas of green apple and citrus elements where a spice nuance lurks in the background. The nicely energetic and textured medium weight flavors exude evident minerality on the sappy, powerful and focused, even chiseled, finale. This isn't an elegant rendition of the appellation but it does offer solid quality in an age-worthy package. 92/2028+

### **Domaine Marc Roy (Gevrey-Chambertin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay “Champs Perdrix”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
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Please see Issue 89 or the appropriate entry in the Burghound database for additional details on Alexandrine Roy's views of the 2021 vintage. The '21 Marsannay blanc was bottled in August 2022. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, DC Flynt MW Selections, [www.dcflyntmw.com](http://www.dcflyntmw.com), Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR, Old World Imports, [www.oldworldwineco.com](http://www.oldworldwineco.com), CO, all USA; Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), Davy & Co., [www.davywine.co.uk](http://www.davywine.co.uk), H2Vin, [www.h2vin.co.uk](http://www.h2vin.co.uk) and Clarion Wines, [www.clarionwines.co.uk](http://www.clarionwines.co.uk), all UK; Clos Cachet, [www.closcachet.com.au](http://www.closcachet.com.au), VIC, Australia).

**2021 Marsannay “Champs Perdrix”:** (100% chardonnay that, according to Roy, almost never completes its malo). A ripe and quite fresh nose freely offers up its aromas of white peach, citrus confit and a floral wisp. There is a lovely sense of vibrancy to the delicious middleweight flavors that terminate in a distinctly lemon-tinged, very dry and youthfully austere finale that offers acceptable depth and persistence. To enjoy young for its crunchy fruit. 87/2024+

### **Domaine Etienne Sauzet (Puligny-Montrachet)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-96)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune “Jardin du Calvaire”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(94-97)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Canet” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières – En La Richard” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet Terroirs de Blagny 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Perrières” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>

Gérard Boudot's son-in-law Benoît Riffault described the 2021 vintage as “one where volumes got completely crushed. We produced less in 2021 than we did in 2003, and that's saying something! We tried to protect a few vineyards but when the snow fell and then melted, it was all over. We were off 55% on average but volumes were wildly varied, which is to say down between 20 and 80%. But it was the 1ers that were the worst affected as they came in between 8 and 15 hl/ha and several of them will not be declared in 2021. Even with the tiny yields, maturities came slowly so we didn't begin picking until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, which is exactly one month later than the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August date we started in 2020. Waiting a few extra days was helpful as potential alcohols were very good as they ranged from 12.5 to 13.5%. The fermentations finished without incident and I was actually surprised at how fast the malos finished because I have never seen such low pHs. As to the wines, I adore this vintage despite all its problems. The wines are highly concentrated yet electric and I think that many of them will make for superb old bones.” I couldn't agree more with Riffault as there are several stunningly good wines in his portfolio. Riffault noted that for those wines in bottle, they were put there in January 2023 and that the upper-level wines would likely be bottled in March and April 2023. Lastly, Riffault indicated that in 2021 there will be no Chevalier-Montrachet, La Truffière, Hameau de Blagny, Champ Gain or Chassagne “Les Encégnières”. (Vineyard Brands, [www.vineyardbrands.com](http://www.vineyardbrands.com), AL, USA; O.W. Loeb,

[www.owloeb.com](http://www.owloeb.com), Justerini & Brooks, [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com), Tanners Wine, [www.tanners-wines.co.uk](http://www.tanners-wines.co.uk), The Wine Society, [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com), Davy & Co., [www.davywine.co.uk](http://www.davywine.co.uk), Goedhuis & Co., [www.goedhuis.com](http://www.goedhuis.com), Harrods Limited, [www.harrods.com/food-and-wine](http://www.harrods.com/food-and-wine), Laytons, [www.laytons.co.uk](http://www.laytons.co.uk), Clarion Wines, [www.clarionwines.co.uk](http://www.clarionwines.co.uk), The Rare & Fine Wine Company Limited, [www.therareandfinewinecompany.com](http://www.therareandfinewinecompany.com), House of Townend, [www.houseoftownend.com](http://www.houseoftownend.com), Claret-E Ltd, [www.claret-e.com](http://www.claret-e.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com) UK; Sequin & Robillard/Vinifera, [www.sequinrobillard.ca](http://www.sequinrobillard.ca), Canada).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay:** (aged half in wood, half in steel with only ~10% of the portion in wood being new – from Puligny vines). There is a lactic hint to the lightly reduced nose so I would recommend giving this some air first. There is excellent density and intensity to the middleweight flavors that conclude in a chiseled, youthfully austere and lemony finish. This is awkward but I suspect that the recent bottling has upset the balance and my rating offers the benefit of the doubt. 87/2026+

**2021 Bourgogne-Hautes Côtes de Beaune “Jardin du Calvaire”:** This is also reduced though there is no lactic note. There is terrific punch to the slightly less concentrated but more mineral-inflected flavors that also conclude in a youthfully austere and lemony finish that is linear and long. Lovely and worth a look. 87/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from 8 different *lieux-dits* though Les Meix is the largest contributor). A subtle but perceptible dollop of oak frames fresh and bright aromas of citrus, acacia and Granny Smith apples. The racy and moderately concentrated medium-bodied flavors possess both excellent precision and a really lovely texture, all wrapped in a markedly dry but not really austere finale that flashes excellent length. This is a very fine Puligny *villages* and worth checking out plus it should age gracefully. 90/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Garenne”:** (25+ year old vines aged in 25% new wood). A beautifully layered nose freely reveals its aromas of wet stone, apple, pear and full-on floral scents. There is even better mid-palate density to the seductively textured medium weight flavors that possess more evident minerality on the bone-dry and distinctly linear finale that is shaped by overtly citrus-tinged acidity. This will need a few years to develop better depth. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Perrières”:** (from vines planted in 1986 and located in very compact and rocky soil). This too displays a plethora of floral elements on the cool aromas of mostly citrus confit and various white orchard fruit scents. There is both excellent cut and mid-palate density to the succulent but exceptionally intense medium-bodied flavors that are like rolling tiny pebbles around in the mouth before concluding in a very dry but not really austere finale. This refined and focused effort will also benefit from at least a few years of patience. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Referts”:** (35+ year old vines planted in relatively deep soil interspersed with lots of gravel; aged in 33% new wood). Prominent lemon-lime aromas are complemented by notes of mineral reduction, acacia blossom and discreet spice nuances. The sleek and almost painfully intense middleweight flavors also conclude in a strongly citrus-inflected and bone-dry finish. This youthfully austere effort is packed with development potential though it is also exceptionally compact so patience will absolutely be necessary. In a word, excellent. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet Terroirs de Blagny:** (from a blend of Truffière, Champ Gain and Hameau de Blagny). Firm reduction renders the nose unreadable at present. More interesting are the intense and beautifully textured medium weight flavors that also brim with minerality and ample amount of dry extract that buffers the firm acid spine supporting the unusually powerful, serious, compact and stunningly long finish. This is also like rolling small rocks around the mouth and is a wine that should amply repay a decade or more of keeping. (91-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Champ Canet”:** (from an impressive 1.1 ha parcel of 40+ year old vines in Champ Canet proper though some of them were planted in 1938 at the same time as the Bienvenues). Light reduction blurs the detail of the aromas of citrus zest and matchstick. The dense, vibrant and beautifully precise medium-bodied flavors possess slightly better volume as well as a gorgeous mouthfeel while delivering impressively powerful and long palate staining finale. This chalky and impeccably well-balanced effort is excellent and it should also age accordingly. (92-95)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières – En La Richard”:** (from a .27 ha parcel; only one 350 L barrel made). An elegant, pure and cool nose of white flower, mineral reduction and citrus is trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is a lovely stoniness adding lift to the concentrated middleweight flavors that possess a racy, saline and well-balanced finish. This is also very pretty and most impressive and the only potential nit is that it needs to add depth, though that should occur as the Sauzet Folatières has an excellent track record. 992-94)/2031+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Combettes”:** (from a 1 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines that see 40% new wood). Firm reduction completely overshadows the fruit. Otherwise, there is excellent volume to the seductively textured medium weight flavors that exude plenty of minerality that adds lift to the succulent, balanced and gorgeously persistent bitter lemon-tinged finish that goes on and on. This isn't quite as concentrated as the Folatières but it's finer and stunningly long. This may not be the best Sauzet Combettes ever but in time, it should be in the conversation, it's that good. (93-95)/2033+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .11 ha parcel where the oldest vines of the Domaine were planted in 1938). An overtly floral-suffused nose features notes of lilac, carnation and acacia blossom that are trimmed in spice, citrus rind and soft wood wisps. The strikingly pure and beautifully defined larger-bodied flavors are not super-dense but I very much like the texture, all wrapped in a clean, bone-dry and compact finish that flashes plenty of focused power. This could also use a bit more depth but that shouldn't be an issue. As an aside, for those readers who were Sauzet fans 25-ish years ago, the '21 Bâtard reminds me quite a bit of the 1993, which is one of Sauzet's all-time great vintages. (93-96)/2033+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .22 ha parcel of domaine-owned vines in Puligny and aged in 50% new wood). Here too there is enough reduction to overshadow the fruit. There is an ultra-refined mouthfeel and excellent volume to the super-intense medium weight flavors that possess better complexity on the hugely long and exquisitely balanced finale. This lacy BM is a wine of class and finesse that should age and improve gracefully over a 12 to 15 aging curve. Superb. (93-96)/2033+

**2021 Montrachet:** (made from purchased must sourced from Domaine Thénard, whose vines are on the Chassagne side). A wonderfully spicy nose combines notes of exotic tea and wood with a plethora of floral elements and white peach scents. There is even better volume as well as size, weight and density to the muscular and super-compact big-bodied flavors that display huge length on the borderline tannic finish. While most competent examples of Montrachet clearly need extended cellaring but this is very definitely a 'buy and forget you own it' wine that should be stunningly good in time. (94-97)/2033+

### **Domaine Comte Senard (Aloxe-Corton)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Aloxe-Corton "Les Caillettes"</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne – Ana</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Corton Blanc Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>91</b>

Please see Issue 90 or the Burghound database for Lorraine Senard's views of the 2021 vintage. She noted that there will be no Corton-Charlemagne in 2021 and that yields for the whites averaged only 15 hl/ha. The '21 whites were bottled in December 2022. (Pas Mal Portfolio, [mafeuer@mindspring.com](mailto:mafeuer@mindspring.com), NY/NJ and Vineyard Road, [www.vineyardroad.net](http://www.vineyardroad.net), MA, both USA).

**2021 Bourgogne – Ana:** Pretty and very fresh aromas include those of pear, apple and citrus zest. The succulent, round and delicious flavors possess solid mid-palate density while the very dry finish is supported by bright but not aggressive acidity. To enjoy young for its refreshing fruit. 86/2024+

**2021 Aloxe-Corton "Les Caillettes":** (from 100% pinot gris). There is a background whiff of the exotic on the aromas of mostly essence of pear and floral scents. The rich and generously proportioned middleweight flavors are quite pliant yet there is enough supporting acid structure to allow for a few years of aging. With that said, this could easily be enjoyed young. 88/2025+

**2021 Corton Blanc:** (from Clos des Meix). Moderate wood sets off super-fresh aromas of green apple, acacia blossom and a hint of crushed fennel. Here too the mouthfeel is super-sleek with good mid-palate density to the larger-bodied flavors that flash evident power and a subtle minerality on the youthfully austere, compact and sneaky long finale. This could use better depth but the underlying material appears to be present for that to progressively occur if given a chance. 91/2029+



### Domaine Thomas-Collardot (Puligny-Montrachet)

2021	➔ Bourgogne Aligoté	white	(86-89)
2021	➔ Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune	white	(86-89)
2021	Bourgogne "Les Petits Poiriers"	white	(86-88)
2021	Bourgogne "Les Plates des Champs"	white	86
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet – Cuvée des Climats	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Derrière la Velle"	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Enseignères"	white	(90-92)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" 1er	white	(91-94)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Hameau de Blagny" 1er	white	(90-93)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Les Houillères"	white	(88-91)
2021	Puligny-Montrachet "Nosroyes"	white	(88-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Au Paupillot"	white	(89-91)
2021	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "La Rue Aux Vaches"	white	(89-92)

This tiny 2.5 ha domaine is run by Jacqueline Collardot and her son Matthieu. Their first vintage was 2015 with only one wine, but they have slowly been taking back vineyards that were leased out in one form or another since 1991. The mother-son team told me that 2021 "was as difficult a growing season to manage as 2020 was easy. We picked from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of September and the frost and disease pressure cost us dearly in terms of yields, and our overall volumes were down up to 80% in certain parcels, and in particular, Folatières and Blagny. While the fruit was ripe and reasonably clean, we were fanatical about eliminating any berry that appeared as though it might have an oidium taint. In the same vein, we did a very careful lees settling to eliminate all but the cleanest lees. We vinified the must in 350 L barrels and had no trouble with either fermentation. As to the wines, there isn't much quantity but the quality is excellent plus they should age effortlessly as there is everything to support that." I would agree with the Collardot take as there really are some lovely wines in the range. (Skurnik Wines, [www.skurnik.com](http://www.skurnik.com), NY, USA; Lea & Sandeman, [www.leaandsandeman.co.uk](http://www.leaandsandeman.co.uk) and John Armit Wines, [www.armit.co.uk](http://www.armit.co.uk), both UK; L'Imperatrice Fine Wines, <https://imperatricewine.com.hk>, Hong Kong).

**2021 Bourgogne Aligoté:** Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to read. More interesting are the sleek, intense and nicely detailed middleweight flavors that conclude in a lemony, youthfully austere and bone-dry finale. This is potentially very good and an example of the appellation that could age a few years if desired. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune:** This is also firmly reduced and not readable in its current state. There is slightly better concentration if not quite the precision of the medium weight flavors that possess good mid-palate richness that contrasts somewhat with the equally dry, sleek and sneaky long finale. (86-89)/2025+

**2021 Bourgogne "Les Plates des Champs":** A discreet application of wood sets off mostly white orchard fruit and citrus confit scents. On the palate there is excellent richness to the generously proportioned flavors that retain good punch that carries over to the delicious if slightly rustic finish that comes up a bit short relative to the other examples of Bourgogne in the range. 86/2024+

**2021 Bourgogne "Les Petits Poiriers":** A cooler and fresher nose freely reveals its aromas of green apple, citrus, white flower and an equally discreet hint of wood influence. There is a slightly sleeker mouthfeel to the utterly delicious and finer if not denser middleweight flavors that offer good if not special length on the slightly lean and firmer finale. (86-88)/2026+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Houillères":** Here the oak treatment is no longer subtle though neither is it dominant on the overtly floral scents of apple, pear and fennel. There is better mid-palate density to the attractively textured flavors that coat the palate with dry extract while buffering the moderately firm acid spine supporting the nicely long finale. (88-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Au Paupillot":** (a rarely seen vineyard). Generous wood fights somewhat with the menthol-inflected nose of essence of pear, citrus confit and exotic tea top notes. The racy and beautifully detailed medium weight flavors that possess good cut and punch on the moderately austere and robust finale that exhibits fine length. This is on the woody side at present but the oak should eventually be successfully integrated. Worth considering. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet "Derrière la Velle":** (this too is rarely seen as a declared example). This is aromatically similar to the Paupillot with just a bit more citrus influence. There is again excellent vibrancy to the delicious and succulent medium-bodied flavors that are a bit finer and less powerful on the dry and lingering finale where a touch of wood slowly reemerges. This too is worth a look provided you can cellar it long enough for the wood to more completely integrate. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “La Rue Aux Vaches”:** More subtle, though hardly invisible, wood frames cool, pretty and ripe aromas of citrus zest, white orchard fruit and a plenitude of floral influences. The generously proportioned but solidly punchy medium weight flavors coat the palate with sappy dry extract that also buffers the moderately firm acid spine shaping the balanced and sneaky long finish. This lovely effort could use better depth so a few years of cellaring should prove beneficial. (89-92)/2028+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Nosroyes”:** Here too the wood is anything but subtle even if it doesn’t overshadow the more floral-suffused white fleshed fruit aromas. There is excellent density to the palate staining and powerful middleweight flavors that culminate in a clean, very dry and youthfully austere finale that is even more tightly wound. This also needs to develop better depth so at least a few years of cellaring should be helpful. (88-91)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Enseignères”:** A pungent nose is comprised by wood toast and firm reduction. Much more interesting are the impressively dense and sappy larger-bodied flavors that possess both excellent power and volume, all wrapped in a beautifully long and balanced finale. Like several wines in the range, this is on the oaky side but the mid-palate density appears to be present for it to be successfully integrated with time in bottle. Lovely potential. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet – Cuvée des Climats:** (this is a blend of all of the domaine’s vineyards and hence the name; as was the case in 2020, only magnums will be produced in 2021). An airy and quite pretty array is comprised by notes of floral, pear, apple and citrus nuances are framed by a moderate application of wood. There is a wonderfully succulent mouthfeel to the beautifully textured medium weight flavors that exhibit a fine bead of minerality on the balanced, chiseled, nicely dry and lingering finale that is ever-so-mildly austere at present. Very good quality here in an ageworthy package. (90-92)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Hameau de Blagny”:** Firm reduction flattens the fruit though a touch of wood does fight through the reductive funk. The super-sleek, intense and slightly more refined medium-bodied flavors contrast somewhat with the compact, serious, moderately dry and youthfully austere finale that offers slightly better depth. Lovely. (90-93)/2029+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet “Folatières”:** (from Au Chaniot, which is in my view the best of the four *lieux-dits* that make up Folatières). Relatively light, though again hardly invisible, wood is present on the cooler aromas of Granny Smith apples, acacia blossom and crushed star anise. There is outstanding density to the beautifully textured flavors where an evident bead of minerality adds a sense of lift to the powerful, sappy and sneaky long finish that is also markedly compact. This is potentially excellent and a wine that should age well over the next decade. (91-94)/2031+

#### **Domaine Trapet Père & Fils (Gevrey-Chambertin)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Marsannay Blanc</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-89)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➡ Meursault “Les Vireuils”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>90</b>

Please see Issue 89, or check the Burghound database, to have Jean-Louis Trapet’s views of the 2021 vintage. (Polaner Selections, [www.polanerselections.com](http://www.polanerselections.com), NY and Classic Wine Imports, MA, both USA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com) and Champagnes et Châteaux, [www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk](http://www.champagnesandchateaux.co.uk), all UK).

**2021 Marsannay Blanc:** (from Les Grasses Têtes and Le Grand Poirier). A vague whiff of exotic fruit is present on the floral and lychee-suffused nose. There is both good punch and richness to the agreeably textured middleweight flavors that offer reasonable depth and persistence on the nicely dry finale. To enjoy young. (87-89)/2024+

**2020 Meursault “Les Vireuils”:** (2020 was the first vintage for this wine). Ripe yet cool aromas include those of hazelnut, lemon rind, petrol and essence of pear. I like the sense of underlying tension to the much more mineral-driven medium weight flavors that also possess a notably finer mouthfeel while delivering better depth and persistence as well on the clean, dry and balanced finale. This is lovely and a wine that could either be enjoyed young or aged for 6 to 8 years of good effect. Worth considering. 90/2027+

#### **Domaine Joannès Violot-Guillemard (Pommard)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune “La Foulotte”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-88)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Meursault “Les Meix Chavaux”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>

For recent changes in the domaine's vineyards as well as Joannès Violot's views and comments on the 2020 vintage, please see Issue 86 or the Burghound database. Violot said that his 2020s were bottled between November 2021 and January 2022. I would remind readers that because Thierry's son Joannes has taken over, the domaine's name has changed to Joannès Violot-Guillemard. (Caveau Selections, [www.caveauselections.com](http://www.caveauselections.com), OR, True North Wine Merchants, [www.truenorthwines.com](http://www.truenorthwines.com), CA, both USA; Clark Foyster Wines, [www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk](http://www.clarkfoysterwines.co.uk), Haynes Hanson & Clark, [www.hhandc.co.uk](http://www.hhandc.co.uk), Flint Wines, [www.flintwines.com](http://www.flintwines.com), all UK; Vintur, [www.vintur.dk](http://www.vintur.dk), Denmark; Euan McKay Wine Merchant, [www.euanmckay.com.au](http://www.euanmckay.com.au), Australia; Peter Maude Wines, [www.pmfw.co.nz](http://www.pmfw.co.nz), New Zealand; LQV, [www.lqv-group.com](http://www.lqv-group.com), Asia; Toyota Tsusho Foods Corporation, [www.toyotsu-shokuryo.com](http://www.toyotsu-shokuryo.com), Tokyo, Japan; Unger Weine, [www.underweine.de](http://www.underweine.de), Germany).

**2021 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "La Foulotte":** Prominent citrus nuances are present on the nose of mostly petrol and cool green apple. The rich and quite pliant middleweight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the clean and nicely dry finale. This is at once forward yet crisp and a wine that should drink well shortly after release. (86-88)/2024+

**2021 Meursault "Les Meix Chavaux":** A deft application of wood sets off the expressive, cool and fresh aromas of acacia, apple, pear and a hint of hazelnut character. The rich and quite generously proportioned medium weight flavors that are shaped by bright citrus-tinged acidity on the equally dry, clean and lingering finale. This is a lovely Meursault *villages* that is worth checking out, plus it should repay a few years of cellaring. (89-91)/2027+

### **Domaine Comte de Vogüé (Chambolle-Musigny)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Musigny Blanc</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-93)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Musigny Blanc</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>93</b>

Please see Issue 89 for new winemaker Jean Lupatelli's take on the 2021 vintage. He explained that the '21 was vinified 100% in wood. Note that the 2020 Musigny Blanc was vinified by François Millet and was bottled in March 2022. (Chambers & Chambers Wine Merchants, [www.chamberswines.com](http://www.chamberswines.com), CA, Country Vintner, [www.countryvintner.com](http://www.countryvintner.com), VA, Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), CO/NM, Ideal Wines, [www.idealwine.us](http://www.idealwine.us), MA, Atlanta Wholesale Wines, email [david.forman@atlanta.com](mailto:david.forman@atlanta.com), GA and C'est Vin, LLC, 703.243.3559, VA, all USA; Corney & Barrow, [www.corneyandbarrow.com](http://www.corneyandbarrow.com) and Dreyfus, Ashby & Co., [www.dreyfusashby.com](http://www.dreyfusashby.com), both UK).

**2021 Musigny Blanc:** (from a .67 ha parcel of chardonnay). An almost invisible touch of wood can be found on the markedly floral-suffused aromas of ripe citrus, and in particular grapefruit, just sliced Granny Smith apples and a hint of crushed fennel. There is excellent volume to the rich and caressing but very punchy large-bodied flavors that flash an almost pungent minerality on the youthfully austere, compact and citrus-inflected finish that is borderline tannic. This is presently very backward and while it's packed with development potential, it's also a wine that will take its sweet time maturing. (91-93)/2033+

**2020 Musigny Blanc:** (from a .67 ha parcel of chardonnay). There is a subtle note of petrol is present on the admirably pure and cool aromas of apple, pear, lemon-lime and mineral reduction. The succulent, concentrated and almost painfully intense larger-scaled flavors brim with both dry extract and an almost aggressive stoniness that adds a sense of lift to the powerful yet refined, chalky and youthfully austere finale. Like the '21 version, this compact, bone-dry and borderline tannic effort is clearly very backward, and I would expect an almost glacial evolution in bottle though it should be well worth the wait. A classic Musigny blanc. 93/2032+

### **Domaine Joseph Voillot (Volnay)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Meursault "Les Cras" 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>88</b>
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Please see Issue 90, or the Burghound Database, for Etienne Chaix's, who has now taken over the direction of the domaine, comments about the 2021 vintage. The Voillot 2021 whites were bottled in December 2022 though note that the Chevalières will not be commercially released in 2021 as the volume was just too small. Chaix did note that they did separately vinify and bottle it but that they will keep it for domaine-related festivities! (A Roy Cloud Selection for Vintage '59 Imports, [www.vintage59.com](http://www.vintage59.com), Washington, D.C., USA; Anthony Sarjeant, UK; Jalux, [www.jalux.com](http://www.jalux.com), Japan; Dieckmann's Wein, [www.dieckmannswein.de](http://www.dieckmannswein.de), Germany; Okhuysen, [www.okhuysen.nl](http://www.okhuysen.nl), Netherlands; Divine Wines, [www.divine-burgundy-wine.com](http://www.divine-burgundy-wine.com), Ireland; La Cave de Reverolle, [www.cavedereve.ch](http://www.cavedereve.ch), Switzerland; Fine Wine Company, [www.sdvf.ca](http://www.sdvf.ca), Canada).

**2021 Meursault “Les Cras”:** Pretty, fresh and ripe aromas include those of lemon zest, acacia and a variety of white orchard fruit scents. There is good richness and solid verve to the delicious middleweight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the overtly citrusy and slightly short finish. This may better harmonize but at present it's a bit strict. 88/2026+

### **Domaine de la Vougeraie (Prémeaux-Prissey)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(92-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Bourgogne Chardonnay Terres de Famille</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(86-89)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot Clos de la Chapelle” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(90-93)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Charlemagne Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(91-94)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(93-95)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➔ Puligny-Montrachet</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-91)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Vougeot “Clos du Prieuré”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(87-90)</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Vougeot “Le Clos Blanc” 1er</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>(89-92)</b>

Please see Issue 89 or the Burghound database to see more information about the 2021 vintage. (Veritas Imports, [www.veritaswine.com](http://www.veritaswine.com), NV/CO/AZ/NM; Country Vintner, [www.countryvintner.com](http://www.countryvintner.com), VA; Lion Imports, CA; Martignetti, [www.martignetti.com](http://www.martignetti.com), MA, all USA; Fields, Morris & Verdin, [www.fmvwines.com](http://www.fmvwines.com), Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com), both UK; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.com/hk](http://www.bbr.com/hk), Hong Kong; Berry Brothers & Rudd, [www.bbr.co.jp](http://www.bbr.co.jp), Japan).

**2021 Bourgogne Chardonnay Terres de Famille:** (from vines in the Hautes Côte de Nuits and young vine fruit in Bienvenues and Clos Blanc). Cool and airy aromas are comprised by notes of straw, just sliced citrus and a whiff of petrol. There is fine mid-palate density to the delicious middleweight flavors that conclude in a clean, dry and nicely saline-inflected finish. This isn't refined but it is agreeably refreshing while offering better than average depth. (86-89)/2024+

**2021 Puligny-Montrachet:** (from Noyer Bret, Au Paupillot and La Rue aux Vaches). A more elegant and much more floral-suffused nose speaks mostly of vaguely exotic aromas of lemon-lime, tangerine and white peach. There is again fine volume and intensity to the almost painfully intense medium weight flavors that terminate in a linear, serious, moderately austere and surprisingly powerful finish. This is old school Puligny in style that should age well. (89-91)/2028+

**2021 Vougeot “Clos du Prieuré”:** (a monopole of the domaine with .83 ha planted to chardonnay). Moderate reduction renders the nose tough to assess at present. More interesting are the very rich, even opulent and suave, medium-bodied flavors that possess a seductive mid-palate texture, all wrapped in a clean and nicely dry finish that offers more energy than usual. This is sufficiently forward to drink well young if desired. (87-90)/2026+

**2021 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot Clos de la Chapelle”:** (a new 4.48 ha monopole, of which 3.5 ha is planted to chardonnay; 2021 is the first vintage). A different aromatic profile presents notes of petrol, rosemary oil, spice and an interesting whiff of orange peel. There is excellent volume and punch to the bigger-bodied flavors that also possess fine richness while delivering very fine persistence on the lemony, clean and very dry finale. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should be beneficial. (90-93)/2028+


**2021 Vougeot “Le Clos Blanc”:** (a monopole of de la Vougeraie). Here too there is a suggestion of the exotic to the cool white fleshed fruit and citrus confit scents. Once again there is excellent richness and volume to the quite succulent, even seductive, medium-bodied flavors that exhibit a touch of rusticity on the sneaky long finale. (89-92)/2026+

**2021 Charlemagne:** (from parcels of .28 ha in En Charlemagne and .22 ha in Le Charlemagne; note that this could also be declared as Corton-Charlemagne). A distinctly cool and restrained nose only grudgingly offers up its aromas of Granny Smith apples, lemon confit, white flower and wet stone. There is excellent intensity to the delicious bigger-bodied flavors that brim with both minerality and sappy dry extract where the latter helps to buffer the markedly bright acidity supporting the power, serious, youthfully austere and bone-dry finale. At least some patience strongly advised as this is very tightly coiled. (91-94)/2029+

**2021 Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .46 ha holding). Pretty notes of honeysuckle and a mix of citrus and white orchard fruit, especially pear, are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The citrus character continues onto the rich, concentrated and almost painfully intense medium weight flavors that conclude in a bone-dry, lengthy and beautifully balanced finale. This is also quite tightly coiled and a wine that will need all of a decade to reach its peak. (92-94)/2031+

**2021 Bâtard-Montrachet:** (from a .38 ha holding divided into 3 parcels, two of which are on the Chassagne side and the remainder on the Puligny side of the divide). A discreet hint of the exotic is present on the otherwise fresh, cool and admirably pure floral, green fruit and spice scents that are set off by a discreet application of oak. The palate impression of the broad-shouldered flavors is restrained if punchy before really fanning out on the firm, balanced, bone-dry and ever-so-slightly austere finale where a touch of bitter zest slowly appears. This is quite linear at present and a wine that is clearly going to need extended patience. (92-94)/2033+

**2021 Chevalier-Montrachet:** (from a .15 ha holding that produced only 450 bottles in 2021). This too manifests a hint of the exotic with its ripe nose of mostly white orchard fruits, tangerine, acacia blossom and jasmine tea nuances. There is an abundance of mouthcoating dry extract that really fills out the mid-palate of the full-bodied and intensely mineral-driven flavors that possess both outstanding volume and ample power, all wrapped in a textured, balanced and lingering if mildly austere finish. This is excellent and in particular, I very much like the highly sophisticated texture. Impressive. (93-95)/2033+





## Current Release California Pinot Noir

Given the obvious focus of Burghound.com, I feel compelled to mention that U.S. pinot noir is not Burgundy, and Burgundy is not U.S. pinot. I state the obvious because so many people, including some consumers, producers as well as certain critics who should know better, laud or criticize pinot noir because it's either very Burgundian in character or it's not. In point of fact, the two regions share a common grape variety and after that, all bets are off. The resulting wines are different and should be viewed as such. While comparisons are inevitable, it ultimately is a disservice to the individuality of both regions, unless of course the goal is the unfortunate internationalization of wine where differences are to be avoided, not celebrated. The wines are different because the micro-climates are different, as are the soils, day and nighttime temperatures, total sunlight, moisture, proximity to water masses, vine age and dozens of other critical aspects. What is shared to a lesser extent are similar production methods, depending on the wineries in question and among the very best producers in both countries, a desire to express as clearly as possible the voice of the land or stated differently, a sense of place.

**Note:** the scores below are presented on the basis of absolute quality, not how these pinots compare to burgundies.

**Also:** Burghound.com provides continuous coverage of California and Oregon pinot noir as sampled. Subscribers should be sure to check the database for pinots reviewed in previous issues.

Burghound.com does not typically indicate retail prices due to often extreme variability between one country and another. When they are available however we do include the winery provided U.S. prices as a rough indication of value.

### Burghound.com's California Selections

2021	Pinot Noir – Russian River Valley	Atelier Winery	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Oeuf en Bèton Beauregard Ranch	Beauregard Vineyards	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Santa Cruz Mountains	Beauregard Vineyards	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Wiley Vineyard	Bravium	92
2021	Pinot Noir – 4 Amours	Domaine Della	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Graham Family Vineyard	Domaine Della	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Terra de Promissio	Domaine Della	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Double L Vineyard	Morgan Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Twelve Clones	Morgan Winery	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Fort Ross-Seaview “Sea Field”	RAEN Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Freestone Occidental “Bodega”	RAEN Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast “Royal St. Robert”	RAEN Winery	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Rancho La Viña Vineyard	Testarossa Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Rosella's Vineyard	Testarossa Winery	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Sanford & Benedict Vineyard	Testarossa Winery	93
2021	Pinot Noir – Soberanes Vineyard	Testarossa Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Tondre Grapefield	Testarossa Winery	93
2021	Pinot Noir – Foxtrot	Tongue Dancer Wines	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Pinot de Ville	Tongue Dancer Wines	91
2020	Pinot Noir – Angel Camp Vineyard	Dutton-Goldfield Winery	92
2020	Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast	Tongue Dancer Wines	91
2019	Pinot Noir – English Hill Vineyard	Bohème Wines	90
2019	Pinot Noir – Stuller Vineyard	Bohème Wines	91

### Atelier Winery (Healdsburg, CA)

2021	➡ Pinot Noir – Russian River Valley	red	92
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Atelier was founded by Yoav Gilat, who was born and raised in Tel Aviv, and the winemaker is Ondine Chattan. They source their fruit from the Russian River Valley, from family-owned vineyard sites who are committed to sustainable farming and

conservation. The wines are bottled in lightweight glass produced in California and sealed with Diam corks using a domestically sourced biodegradable wax closure. They ship in post-consumer recycled corrugated cardboard shippers, and, like their labels, their shipping boxes are printed with compostable ink. For more information visit: [www.atelierwinery.com](http://www.atelierwinery.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Russian River Valley:** (710 cases, ~30% whole cluster, 14.1%, 8,520 bottles). Restrained if extremely pretty aromas are comprised by notes of the essence of maraschino cherry, spice and an interesting suggestion of dried orange peel along with a vaguely Chablis-like hint of quinine. The sleek and highly seductive medium-bodied flavors possess excellent density as well as a sophisticated mouthfeel thanks to the fine-grained tannins supporting the moderately firm, dusty, youthfully austere and sneaky long finish. This is pretty tightly wound and in need of time to round off the finish as the austerity is prominent. In sum, this is a wine of contrasts as the mid-palate is caressing and inviting while the finish makes clear that at least some time in bottle is necessary. 92/2029+

### **Beauregard Vineyards (Santa Cruz, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Oeuf en Béton Beauregard Ranch</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Santa Cruz Mountains</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>

In 1945, retired Sheriff Deputy Amos Beauregard bought 157 acres which included 13 acres planted to vines. His son, Emmit (Bud) Beauregard, farmed the land for decades, and then passed it on to his son Jim Beauregard. Jim was involved in establishing the Ben Lomond Mountain AVA, which is a different terroir than the rest of Santa Cruz Mountains. He has since planted hundreds of acres of vines throughout the Santa Cruz Mountains, and still maintains his own 68 acres of pinot, chardonnay, zinfandel and cabernet sauvignon as the Viticulturist for the domaine. Jim's son, Ryan Beauregard, is the next generation at the helm and the current winemaker for Beauregard Vineyards, where 2000 was his first vintage. For more information, call 831.425.7777 or visit: [www.beauregardvineyards.com](http://www.beauregardvineyards.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Santa Cruz Mountains:** (280 cases, SRP \$50, bottled under screwcap, 13.5%). There is a touch of reduction lurking in the background though it's not enough to significantly detract from the otherwise pretty essence of red berry fruit aromas that are trimmed in a hint of anise. The delicious, fleshy and attractively textured middleweight flavors possess good verve that carries over to the clean, dry-in-the-best sense where a touch of youthful austere slowly emerges. Not surprisingly given how young the wine is, this is presently quite tightly wound so a few years of cellaring would be helpful. 90/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Oeuf en Béton Beauregard Ranch:** (Ben Lomond Mountain, Santa Cruz Mountains, 70 cases, SRP \$65, 13.5%; the French term 'oeuf en béton' refers to an egg-shaped concrete container for aging the wine). Cool, airy and wonderfully pure if decidedly more restrained aromas include those of red cherry, currant, lilac, rose petal and a similar hint of anise. The gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors are also seductively plump and fleshy while retaining an appealing energy on the dusty, mildly austere and firm finale that exhibits sneaky good length. This tightly coiled effort is already nicely complex but it's clear that it possesses fine development potential. Well worth checking out. 92/2029+

### **Bohème Wines (Occidental, CA)**

<b>2019</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – English Hill Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Occidental Hills</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Stuller Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Taylor Ridge Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>87</b>

Owner Kurt Beitler is a fourth generation California winemaker whose first position was at Caymus Winery after college. Beitler produced his first Bohème wine in 2004. For more information call 707.874.3214 or visit: [www.bohemewines.com](http://www.bohemewines.com)

**2019 Pinot Noir – English Hill Vineyard:** (Sonoma Coast, planted in 2005, 13.3%). A perfumed and very pretty nose combines various red berry scents with those of anise and a whiff of jasmine tea. The succulent and nicely energetic medium-bodied flavors possess a lovely mid-palate texture before concluding in a dusty, youthfully austere and firm finale. This should benefit from a few years of keeping to develop better overall depth. Worth considering. 90/2027+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Occidental Hills:** (Sonoma Coast, 14.1%). This is also attractively perfumed and airy with its cool blue pinot fruit and vaguely exotic nuances. Here too the middleweight flavors possess a lovely mid-palate texture while exhibiting good if not truly special length on the equally compact and slightly more austere finale. At least some patience will be necessary as even at 4 years of age it remains fairly tightly coiled. 90/2027+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Stuller Vineyard:** (Sonoma Coast, planted in 2001, 13.7%). Here too there is a wafting perfume-like quality to the even spicier aromas of the essence of red and blue fruit that is trimmed in hints of sandalwood and floral wisps. There is fine delineation to the sleek and vibrant medium weight flavors that are supported by fine but moderately dense tannins before culminating in a dusty, balanced and sneaky long finale. While this could also use better depth, more will almost certainly develop if given a chance and overall, this is also worth considering. 91/2029+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Taylor Ridge Vineyard:** (Sonoma Coast, planted in 2000, 14.3%). An airy, cool and wafting nose isn't quite as spicy but it is admirably pure with its array of mostly red berries and violet scents. The intense and well-detailed middleweight flavors possess a nicely refined mid-palate texture that contrasts noticeably with the compact and bitter cherry pit-inflected finish that is somewhat short and moderately austere. This may come together but it would be fair to observe that it's awkward at present though I stress, by no means unpleasant, just not as well-balanced as it could be. 87/now+

### **Bravium (San Francisco, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Wiley Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
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Bravium translates from Latin as “reward, prize, or gift.” Proprietor and winemaker Derek Rohlffs founded Bravium in 2007. Bravium Winery is located on Treasure Island, in the middle of San Francisco Bay and the vineyards are located in the in Mendocino, Napa, Santa Cruz Mountains and Sonoma. Sales of all Bravium and Artisan wines help support Sip & Give, the charitable giving campaign. The wine is bottled under the Diam brand composite cork. For more information call 650.207.8314 or visit: [www.bravium.com](http://www.bravium.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Wiley Vineyard:** (Anderson Valley, 12.9%). A very pretty and overtly spicy nose features both red and blue pinot fruit along with a hint of earth. I very much like the texture of the solidly concentrated middleweight flavors that are at once sleek yet caressing, all wrapped in a vibrant, dusty and focused bitter pit fruit-inflected finale. This is lovely and the excellent balance should permit this to age well over the mid-term. 92/2028+

### **Domaine Della (Santa Rosa, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – 4 Amours</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Earl Stephens Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Graham Family Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Russian River Valley</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Santa Lucia Highlands</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Soberanes Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Terra de Promissio</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>

Proprietor and winemaker David W. Hejl launched Domaine Della with fellow founders, his sister and brother-in-law, Lee and Ernie LeRoy. In 2010 they vinified their first ton, two barrels, in their new cellar and crush pad at home, for family and friends. In 2011 Hejl left private equity and accepted the CEO position at Kosta Brown, leaving there in 2015 to work full time on Domaine Della. They source fruit from various growers in the Russian River Valley, Sonoma Coast, and Santa Lucia Highlands. 2023 marks their 10th anniversary with the release of the 2021 vintage. For more information visit: [www.domainedella.com](http://www.domainedella.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Russian River Valley:** (300 cases, 14.5%). A moderately deeply pitched nose combines notes of plum and a mix of red and dark pinot fruit that is trimmed in a vague hint of exotic tea. The utterly delicious and silky textured middleweight flavors possess a highly seductive mouthfeel as well as good if not special mid-palate density, all wrapped in a dusty, youthfully austere and lingering finish where a noticeable bitter pit fruit character emerges, and which may be more than some palates will appreciate. This is certainly very pretty but the balance isn't perfect. 88/2028+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Santa Lucia Highlands:** (150 cases, 14.8%). An exceptionally pretty nose is comprised of ultra-pure and ripe yet fresh red cherry and a lovely array of floral nuances. Here too there is fine richness to the gorgeously textured medium-bodied flavors that are succulent to the point of opulence before concluding in a dusty, mildly austere and borderline robust finish that also exhibits a bitter pit fruit character as well as a touch of warmth. If you're going to try a bottle young, I would suggest serving this powerful and bold effort with an appropriate dish. 89/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast:** (300 cases, 14.5%). A cooler but equally pretty nose combines the essence of red cherry, red pinot and both red and dark currant along with rose petal whiffs. Once again the medium weight flavors possess a gorgeous texture thanks to the dense but refined supporting tannins shaping the dusty, moderately austere and sneaky long finish that also reflects a bitter pit fruit character. Here however the pit fruit character is not quite as prominent though it still may be enough to bother some palates. Note that my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that cellaring will progressively round off the slight edginess. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Earl Stephens Vineyard:** (Russian River Valley, 200 cases, 14.5%). At the risk of sounding like a broken record, this is also aromatically gorgeous with its cool, elegant and beautifully layered red berry fruit, spice and floral scents. While the middleweight and quite supple flavors possess equally good refinement, they are not quite as concentrated as the best in the range though there is a lovely sense of underlying tension suffusing the dusty, compact and mildly austere finish where again a touch of ever-so-mildly drying bitter pit fruit character emerges that is enough to cut the persistence somewhat short. This is awfully pretty but it needs food. 89/2028+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Graham Family Vineyard:** (Russian River Valley, 200 cases, 14.5%). The cool essence of red pinot fruit is trimmed in hints of jasmine tea and lilac. The delicious, vibrant and detailed medium weight flavors also possess a striking mouthfeel, once again thanks to the fine-grained tannins, while the dusty, moderately firm and youthfully austere finish displays a touch of bitter pit fruit character though noticeably less than any of the prior wines. It does though need to develop better depth so at least a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Soberanes Vineyard:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, 150 cases, 14.8%). A riper and markedly more deeply pitched nose offers up notes of poached plum, dark currant and a whiff of underbrush character. There is very good mid-palate richness and density to the suave and rounded but punchy medium-bodied flavors that exhibit good power on the dusty and mildly austere finale where a touch of bitter pit fruit character slowly appears along with a touch of warmth. Even so, this carries its reported alcohol quite well even if it remains perceptible. I would add that this isn't quite as refined as many wines in the range but the balance, if not perfect, is better. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Terra de Promissio:** (Sonoma Coast, 200 cases, 14.5%). A more high-toned and elegant nose combines notes of various red berries along with floral nuances that include lilac, violet and rose petal. The delicious, vibrant and beautifully textured medium weight flavors glide across the palate as the effect is really quite sophisticated, all wrapped in a dusty, youthfully austere and impressively long finish where a touch of bitter bit fruit character slowly appears. I would make the same observation here as with the Soberanes, e.g., that the balance, while not perfect, is still good enough to see this eventually successfully make older bones. Recommended provided that you intend to cellar it. 91/2031+

**2021 Pinot Noir – 4 Amours:** (Sonoma Coast, 100 cases, 14.5%). A perfumed nose mixes both upper and lower register aromas that include various red berries, dark currant, plum and a whiff of orange pekoe tea. There is fine richness, mid-palate density and volume to the nicely vibrant medium-bodied flavors that possess a highly seductive mouthfeel that contrasts moderately with the dusty, mildly raspy and lingering finale where a similar hint of bitter pit fruit character surfaces. This should benefit from mid-term cellaring, indeed it's going to need it. 90/2029+

### **Dutton-Goldfield Winery (Sebastopol, CA)**

<b>2020</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Angel Camp Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Mendocino Hills</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>

Dutton-Goldfield Winery was founded in 1998 by longtime colleagues and friends Steve Dutton and Dan Goldfield, with the latter serving as winemaker. Dutton Ranch is a collection of over 60 non-contiguous parcels in Russian River Valley that comprise approximately 1,300 acres of land that they own, lease or manage. About 1,150 of these acres are planted to grapes. In addition to fruit from their Dutton Ranch, they source pinot noir from single vineyards sites in Marin County, Sonoma Coast and Anderson Valley. For further information, contact: 707.823.3887 or visit: [www.duttongoldfield.com](http://www.duttongoldfield.com)

**2020 Pinot Noir – Mendocino Hills:** (Mendocino County, bottled under screwcap, 619 cases, SRP \$40, 14.1%). A pretty mix is composed of red and dark pinot fruit, violet and a discreet spice whiff. The succulent, round and decidedly fleshy middleweight flavors possess an attractive sense of energy on the balanced and sneaky long bitter pit fruit-inflected finish. This delicious effort could easily be enjoyed young or held for a few years first. 90/2026+

**2020 Pinot Noir – Angel Camp Vineyard:** (Anderson Valley, 304 cases, SRP \$74, 14.1%). A perfumed and notably spicier nose freely offers up its array of violet, lilac, red cherry and discreet plum scents. Here too the medium weight flavors are succulent and quite supple yet manage to retain good delineation on the dusty, compact and impressively long finish that flashes focused power. In contrast to the early drinkability of the Mendocino Hills cuvée, this clearly possesses fine development potential. Worth considering. 92/2030+

### **Domaine Jean François (Lompoc, CA)**

<b>2019</b>	<b>➡ Chardonnay – The Twelve Rows</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – The Twelve Rows</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>87</b>

The Sanford & Benedict Vineyard was planted in 1972, being the first vineyard planted with direct un-grafted vines in Santa Barbara county. Today the Terlato family owns this historic vineyard. After a visit to the vineyard in 2016 by François Labet, whose family has been farming in Burgundy, France for 450 years and who owns Château de la Tour and Domaine Pierre Labet, and who believes great wines are born from extraordinary vineyards, he partnered with the Terlato family to form Domaine Jean Francois, and now produces chardonnay from the original 1972 plantings and pinot noir from vines planted in 1999. They follow the protocols of Burgundian organic/biodynamic viticulture using the old Guyot Poussard pruning principles, and at the optimal harvest date, the fruit is hand-harvested at night and in the coolness of fog. At sunrise, the vinification begins with delicate pressing, no addition of inputs, neither yeasts nor sulfites, and the clear juice is then gently transferred directly into French Oak barrels, built by hand by two Burgundian artisan coopers. The wines remain in barrel for two winters before racking for blending. The pinots are made with 30% whole cluster and with a combination of pump overs and *pigeage à pied* (punching down by foot). All activities, from pruning to bottling, respect the lunar calendar. Trey Fletcher is the winemaker. 2018 is the inaugural vintage. Requests to be added to the invitation/allocation list can be sent to [domainejeanfrancois@twg.com](mailto:domainejeanfrancois@twg.com). A website is in production.

#### **Red:**

**2019 Pinot Noir – The Twelve Rows:** (Sta. Rita Hills, 13.5%, sourced from 12 specifically identified and chosen rows from the T6 block of the Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, planted in 1999). A background hint of volatile acidity adds lift to the vaguely advanced aromas of mostly red berry fruit, spice and soft floral nuances. There is excellent vibrancy to the utterly delicious middleweight flavors that conclude in a dusty and somewhat one-dimensional finish that slowly leans out as it sits on the palate. Despite the description, this is drinkable but with that said, it would be fair to observe that it's not at the level that I have come to expect. Two bottles tried with consistent results. 87/2028+

#### **White:**

**2019 Chardonnay – The Twelve Rows:** (Sta. Rita Hills, 13%, sourced from 12 specifically identified and chose rows from the T15 block of the Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, planted in 1972). A discreet application of wood sets off exceptionally pretty and airy aromas of citrus peel, apple and white floral wisps. The cool, vibrant and beautifully detailed medium weight flavors possess a highly seductive texture while delivering excellent persistence on the clean and dry-in-the-best sense finish. While this could use better depth, more should reasonably develop if given a few years of keeping. Well worth checking out. 92/2026+

### **Morgan Winery (Salinas, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Double L Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Twelve Clones</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Twelve Clones</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>88</b>

Owners Donna and Dan Morgan Lee opened the doors to Morgan Winery in 1982. They purchased their 65-acre property in 1996. Their Double L Vineyard became the first Certified Organic property in the Santa Lucia Highlands in 2002. They produce



pinot noir and chardonnay and the winemaker is Sam Smith. For further information call 831.751.7777 or visit: [www.morganwinery.com](http://www.morganwinery.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Twelve Clones:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, SRP \$38, 14.2%). Cool, pretty and elegant aromas consist of the essence of various red berries, especially cranberry and raspberry, together with subtle spice nuances. The vibrant and refined flavors possess a suave texture thanks to the relatively fine-grained tannins that shape the seductive, sneaky long and compact finish where a prominent bitter pit fruit character slowly emerges. This offers unusually good quality for the price and is very much recommended, particularly for those readers who prefer to give their pinots at least some bottle aging. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Double L Vineyard:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, 1,308 cases, SRP \$75, 14%). There is an interesting hint of just ground coffee lurking in the background of the more deeply pitched aromas of plum, violet and various dark berries. The supple and, somewhat remarkably, slightly less concentrated medium-bodied flavors that possess very good energy on the balanced, long and more precise finale that flashes a touch of youthful austerity. This lovely effort is also more tightly wound so at least moderate patience will be necessary. 91/2031+

**2020 Pinot Noir – Twelve Clones:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, SRP \$38, 13.8%). This is aromatically quite similar to its 2021 counterpart with pretty just a bit less spice influence. The very supple, round and easy-going flavors possess very good volume though not the same complexity on the dusty, mildly austere and acceptably long finale. This is perfectly good but it can't match the overall completeness of the '21 Twelve Clones. 88/2027+

### **RAEN Winery (Sonoma Coast, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chardonnay – Fort Ross-Seaview “Charles Ranch”</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Chardonnay – Lady Marjorie</b>	<b>white</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Fort Ross-Seaview “Sea Field”</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Freestone Occidental “Bodega”</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast “Royal St. Robert”</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>

Brothers Carlo and Dante Mondavi, 4th generation vintners were born and raised in Napa Valley, California. Carlo is the winemaker and Dante is the winegrower. They were inspired by their grandfather, the legendary Robert Mondavi. After completing their formal studies they continued their educational work with the winemaking team lead by their father Tim Mondavi of Robert Mondavi Winery and Opus One. They founded RAEN in 2013 and currently focus on making three pinot noirs from three sites on the Sonoma Coast. Once the fruit is in the cellar, the clusters are double sorted before going into tank. For more information visit: [www.raenwinery.com](http://www.raenwinery.com)

#### **Reds:**

**2021 Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast “Royal St. Robert”:** (100% whole cluster, 1,900 cases, 13%). As one would expect given the 100% whole cluster ferment, the highly spiced nose is overtly floral in character while being complemented by various red berries and tea scents. The supple, round and delicious middleweight flavors are quite refined if not especially dense, all wrapped in an attractively textured, clean and youthfully austere finish. This appealing effort could use more depth so a few years of keeping should be helpful in this respect. 90/2028+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Fort Ross-Seaview “Sea Field”:** (Sonoma Coast, 100% whole cluster, 900 cases, 12.5%). This is aromatically similar to the Royal St. Robert if just a bit spicier though there is notably more mid-palate density and volume to the delicious and appealingly vibrant medium weight flavors that also possess a beguiling texture while delivering good length on the dusty, youthfully austere and slightly firmer finale. 91/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Freestone Occidental “Bodega”:** (Sonoma Coast, 100% whole cluster, 200 cases, 12.9%). A more restrained and decidedly cool nose grudgingly offers up its pretty blend of red and dark pinot fruit, violet, lilac and a whiff of exotic tea. Like the Royal St. Robert, the vibrant middleweight are not particularly concentrated (though they are by no means dilute) but they do offer a sophisticated mouthfeel thanks to the fine-grained tannins before terminating in a compact, moderately austere and built-to-age to finish. This is lovely and all it needs is a bit of patience. 91/2031+

## Whites:

**2021 Chardonnay – Fort Ross-Seaview “Charles Ranch”:** (Sonoma Coast, 250 cases, 12.5%). There is a vague suggestion of the exotic suffusing the attractively fresh aromas of petrol, orange and lemon peel and apple. There is both excellent intensity and volume to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a clean, nicely dry and sneaky long finish where a touch of austerity slowly emerges. This could use better depth but the aging potential is clearly present for that to progressively occur. Lovely. 92/2027+

**2021 Chardonnay – Lady Marjorie:** (Sonoma Coast, 450 cases, 12.5%). This also possesses a vague suggestion of the exotic with more spice nuances to the floral and white fleshed fruit-scented nose. The super-sleek, intense and nicely voluminous flavors retain excellent precision that carries over to the serious, compact, austere and built-to-age finish. This tightly wound effort is also lovely but a wine that will need at least a few years of forbearance to be at its best. Worth considering. 92/2028+

## Testarossa Winery (Los Gatos, CA)

2021	Pinot Noir – Graham Family Vineyard	red	90
2021	➤ Pinot Noir – Rancho La Viña Vineyard	red	91
2021	➤ Pinot Noir – Rosella’s Vineyard	red	92
2021	➤ Pinot Noir – Sanford & Benedict Vineyard	red	93
2021	Pinot Noir – Santa Rita Hills	red	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Santa Lucia Highlands	red	89
2021	➤ Pinot Noir – Soberanes Vineyard	red	91
2021	➤ Pinot Noir – Tondre Grapefield	red	93

Founded in 1993 by the husband-wife team of Rob and Diana Jensen, they have gone from producing 25 cases in their garage to a total annual production of approximately 30,000 cases. They have long term partnerships with several California winegrowers in a variety of AVAs. Bill Brosseau is the Director of Winemaking. Testarossa's location at the old Novitiate Winery in downtown Los Gatos, is both a working winery and an historic setting for visitors. The old stone cellars and beautiful grounds of the state's fourth oldest continuously operating winery, also house the tasting room and Wine Bar 107, which provides a relaxed atmosphere for guests to enjoy Testarossa's wines paired with small plates. The old winery was originally built in 1888 and the original 19th Century, three-floor, gravity-flow winery is still in use today to make Testarossa wines. For more information call 408.354.6150 or visit: [www.testarossa.com](http://www.testarossa.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Santa Lucia Highlands:** (3,700 cases, SRP \$55, 14.1%). There is enough reduction present to warrant a quick aeration to reveal the nuances of the red berry fruit nose. More interesting are the energetic and attractively detailed and textured middleweight flavors that possess acceptable density on the lingering bitter pit fruit-inflected finale. I would suggest holding this for a few years in the hopes that better depth will develop. 89/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Santa Rita Hills:** (288 cases, SRP \$57, 14.1%). A mentholated top note can be found on the cool and airy aromas of red and dark pinot fruit, crushed anise and a pretty hint of violet. There is both slightly better volume and a more refined mouthfeel to the delicious medium weight flavors that offer just a bit more depth on the youthfully austere, dusty, compact and serious finale. This is clearly built-to-age and a wine that's going to need at least some forbearance. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Graham Family Vineyard:** (Russian River Valley, 175 cases, SRP \$76, 14.2%). An exuberantly spicy nose is also quite expressive with its aromas of plum, violet, the essence of red cherry and a whiff of lavender. On the palate the mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is finer still thanks to the notably fine-grained tannins supporting the dusty, linear, youthfully austere and sneaky long finale. This could also use more depth so a few years of cellaring should help. 90/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Rancho La Viña Vineyard:** (Santa Rita Hills, 192 cases, SRP \$76, 14.4%). This is aromatically similar to the Graham Family cuvée as it is also quite spicy and pretty. There is a bit more volume to the equally sleek and nicely refined middleweight flavors that conclude in a dusty bitter pit fruit-inflected finish. This is already solidly complex and a few years of keeping should only add to the depth. Lovely. 91/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Rosella’s Vineyard:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, 240 cases, SRP \$76, 14.2%). A more deeply pitched nose is comprised by notes of poached plum, dark currant, exotic tea and a hint of floral character. There is fine richness and volume to the more concentrated and generously proportioned medium-bodied flavors that possess a supple mid-palate that contrasts with the dusty, punchy and moderately tightly wound finale. This could also use better depth but the development potential appears to be more than up to the task. Excellent cellaring potential. 92/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Sanford & Benedict Vineyard:** (Santa Rita Hills, 528 cases, SRP \$76, 14.3%). Moderate reduction overshadows the fruit but after 20 minutes in a decanter, notes of plum, red and dark currant and a panoply of spice elements, especially anise, are eventually visible. I very much like the texture of the solidly concentrated and succulent yet powerful medium weight flavors that conclude in a tightly wound, serious and relatively robust finale that is notably structured. This isn't hard or ungracious but it's sufficiently compact to make clear that at least some cellaring is imperative. 93/2031+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Soberanes Vineyard:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, 350 cases, SRP \$76, 14.3%). The pure essence of red cherry is complemented by a panoply of both spice and floral elements. A highly seductive, even quite sophisticated, mouthfeel is present on the vibrant middleweight flavors that are not quite as dense or powerful but they're finer still, all wrapped in a dusty, balanced and moderately austere finale that could also use better depth so a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 91/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Tondre Grapefield:** (Santa Lucia Highlands, 504 cases, SRP \$76, 14.2%). Here the nose is sufficiently reduced as to benefit from a thorough aeration so if you're tempted to try a bottle young, that would help. Otherwise, there is a lovely texture and excellent verve and richness to the solidly dense medium weight flavors that terminate in a sleek, delicious and impressively persistent finale. This is excellent and a wine that should amply repay up to a decade of keeping. Very much recommended. 93/2029+

### **Tongue Dancer Wines (Healdsburg, CA)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Foxtrot</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – West Sonoma Coast</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Pinot de Ville</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>

This brand was created in 2013 after the wine-passionate James MacPhail sold and departed as founder, proprietor and winemaker of MacPhail Family Wines, now producing about 100 cases of pinot and of chardonnay. He is now working with his wife, Kerry Forbes-MacPhail on this winery. They are certified sustainable and fish friendly. For more information visit: [www.tonguedancerwines.com](http://www.tonguedancerwines.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast:** (Sonoma County, 14.5%). Spicy red berry fruit displays an herbal tea top note along with a hint of violet. The refined and really quite stylish middleweight flavors possess a sophisticated mouthfeel thanks to the fine-grained tannins shaping the nicely detailed, clean and dusty sneaky long finish. There is good richness as well which should permit this to be accessible young if desired. 90/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – West Sonoma Coast:** (Sonoma County, 125 cases, 14.5%). Initially there is just enough reduction to blur the nuance of the nose though aggressive swirling causes most of it to dissipate relatively quickly. Still, if you're going to try a bottle young, a more thorough aeration should be beneficial. Here too the delicious medium-bodied flavors possess a relatively refined mouthfeel as it's at once succulent but punchy, all wrapped in a compact bitter cherry pit-inflected finish. This could use better depth and given the reduction of the nose, I would suggest allowing at least a few years of cellaring first. 89/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Foxtrot:** (Russian River Valley, 14.2%). An exuberantly spicy nose blends aromas of plum, blue pinot fruit and a touch of raspberry character. The super-sleek, vibrant and nicely detailed medium weight flavors are also supported by fine-grained tannins that become slightly more prominent on the dusty, youthfully austere and built-to-age finale. This too could use better depth though the underlying material appears more than up to the task of development more complexity. Worth considering. 91/2028+

**2020 Pinot Noir – Sonoma Coast:** (Sonoma County, 14.5%). This is at once ripe yet cool with its combination of the airy essence of spicy red pinot fruit along with background nuances of plum and floral wisps. There is a slightly finer texture, if not quite the same mid-palate density, to the vibrant and delineated middleweight flavors that conclude in a lingering, youthfully austere and sappy finale. Lovely and understated in style with very good mid-term development potential. 91/2028+

**2020 Pinot Noir – Pinot de Ville:** (Sonoma Coast, 125 cases, 14.7%). The expressive and attractively layered nose of red and dark currant, spice and floral nuances displays a mentholated top note. The caressing and rich, even fleshy medium-bodied flavors possess both good volume and punch before concluding in a lingering and lightly warm finish that could use better depth so a few years of patience should prove helpful. I would add that despite the moderately elevated stated alcohol level, this carries it quite well. 91/2028+

## Current Release Oregon Pinot Noir

Given the obvious focus of Burghound.com, I feel compelled to mention that U.S. pinot noir is not Burgundy, and Burgundy is not U.S. pinot. I state the obvious because so many people, including some consumers, producers as well as certain critics who should know better, laud or criticize pinot noir because it's either very Burgundian in character or it's not. In point of fact, the two regions share a common grape variety and after that, all bets are off. The resulting wines are different and should be viewed as such. While comparisons are inevitable, it ultimately is a disservice to the individuality of both regions, unless of course the goal is the unfortunate internationalization of wine where differences are to be avoided, not celebrated. The wines are different because the micro-climates are different, as are the soils, day and nighttime temperatures, total sunlight, moisture, proximity to water masses, vine age and dozens of other critical aspects. What is shared to a lesser extent are similar production methods, depending on the wineries in question and among the very best producers in both countries, a desire to express as clearly as possible the voice of the land or stated differently, a sense of place.

**Note:** the scores below are presented on the basis of absolute quality, not how these pinots compare to burgundies.

**Also:** Burghound.com provides continuous coverage of California and Oregon pinot noir as sampled. Subscribers should be sure to check the database for pinots reviewed in previous issues.

Burghound.com does not typically indicate retail prices due to often extreme variability between one country and another. When they are available however we do include the winery provided U.S. prices as a rough indication of value.

### Burghound.com's Oregon Pinot Noir Selections

2021	Pinot Noir – Earth	Big Table Farm	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Seven Springs	Evening Land Vineyards	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Estate	Lange Estate Winery and Vineyards	90
2021	Pinot Noir – Freedom Hill Vineyard	Lange Estate Winery and Vineyards	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Estates Reserve	Trisaetum Winery	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Family Reserve	Trisaetum Winery	93
2021	Pinot Noir – Ribbon Ridge Estate	Trisaetum Winery	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Wichmann Dundee Estate	Trisaetum Winery	91
2019	Pinot Noir – Rastaban	Brooks Wines	91
2019	Pinot Noir – Bon Vivant	Flâneur Wines	92
2019	Pinot Noir – Cuvée Constantin	Flâneur Wines	91
2019	Pinot Noir – Flanerie Vineyard	Flâneur Wines	91
2018	Pinot Noir – Red Letter	Brooks Wines	92

### Big Table Farm (Gaston, OR)

2021	➡ Pinot Noir – Earth	red	92
2021	Pinot Noir – Pelos Sandberg Vineyard	red	88
2021	Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley	red	90

Big Table is owned by Brian Marcy and Clare Carver, who manage their 70 acres. Marcy is the winemaker and worked his first harvest in California in 1996 and then learned the business while working for Turley, Neyers, Marcassin and others. Carver is an artist and creates each of the distinctive labels unique to each bottling. For more information call 503.662.3129 or visit: [www.bigtablefarm.com](http://www.bigtablefarm.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley:** (1,846 cases, unfinned and unfiltered, SRP \$50, 13.2%). Light ruby hue. The pure, elegant and very pinot nose is comprised mostly by spicy red berry fruit aromas along with a hint of anise. The supple, fleshy and plump middleweight flavors conclude in a dusty and mildly austere but sneaky long finale. Note that this pretty effort should benefit from a few years of keeping in order to develop better complexity. 90/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Earth:** (Willamette Valley, unfinned and unfiltered, 13.2%). A perfumed and equally pretty nose presents the elegant essence of red currant, spice and a lovely array of floral elements. I very much like the refined and seductive texture of the medium-bodied flavors that possess more volume and mid-palate density, all wrapped in a markedly more powerful finish. This is a big and serious wine that presents quite a contrast between the refinement of the mid-palate versus the borderline rustic finale. Even so, it works quite well as the overall impression is seamless. 92/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Pelos Sandberg Vineyard:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 232 cases, unfinned and unfiltered, SRP \$72, 13.4%). Very pretty, cool and fresh aromas include those of essence of red cherry, raspberry and mildly exotic spice nuances. The supple, round and plump, even fleshy, middleweight flavors possess good richness though there is a slightly bitter character to the dusty and youthfully austere finale that leans out somewhat as it sits on the palate. This too would benefit from being served with an appropriate dish. Two bottles tried with consistent results. 88/2027+

### **Boedecker Cellars (Portland, OR)**

<b>2018</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Shea Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Athena</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Cherry Grove Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Hirschy Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Stewart</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>87</b>

Boedecker Cellars was founded in 2003 by the husband-wife team of Stewart Boedecker and Athena Pappas with a focus on producing wines in very small quantities. In an effort to respect each other's differing opinions and individual palates and rather than compromise on style preferences, they "send each other off to create the blend we individually like the best." Each year they blind sample through barrels of pinot splitting the lots into "Stewart" and "Athena" bottlings. Note that all of the wines are bottled under screw cap. For more information visit: [www.boedeckercellars.com](http://www.boedeckercellars.com)

**2018 Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley:** (2,500 cases, 5% whole cluster, SRP \$29, 13.6%). A cool and appealing mix freely reveals its aromas of red and dark berries, plum and a hint of briar character. The sleek, energetic and delicious middleweight flavors possess a lovely mid-palate texture that contrasts somewhat with the slightly drying and attenuated but not really short finish. This is not without a certain interest but the balance isn't as well dialed in as it might be. 87/2024+

**2018 Pinot Noir – Shea Vineyard:** (Yamhill-Carlton, 25% whole cluster, 13.7%). This is also aromatically fresh, cool and appealing with layered array of spice, violet and red cherry scents that also reflects a hint of briar character. Somewhat surprisingly for a wine from the Shea Vineyard, the medium weight flavors are not particularly concentrated though I do like both the detail and texture, all wrapped in a raspy and borderline rustic finale. This bold bitter pit fruit-inflected effort offers slightly better balance and should better repay mid-term keeping. 89/2028+

**2017 Pinot Noir – Athena:** (Willamette Valley, 720 cases, 20% whole cluster, SRP \$45, 13.6%). A pretty and airy nose reflects slightly more elegant aromas that include plenty of floral nuances on the mostly dark berry scents. The supple and succulent medium-bodied flavors possess a highly seductive mouthfeel that also contrasts noticeably with the firm and lingering if borderline grippy finish. I suspect that serving this with the proper foods would render the finish more attractive. 89/2027+

**2017 Pinot Noir – Cherry Grove Vineyard:** (Willamette Valley, 384 cases, 30% whole cluster, SRP \$58, 13.9%). This is also aromatically beautiful with its even more floral-suffused aromas of plum, red and blue pinot fruit and a hint of jasmine tea. The very supple, indeed plush and generous, middleweight flavors possess good if not special energy that carries over to the dusty bitter pit fruit finish that leans out somewhat as it sits on the palate. This too would be best served with the proper foods. 89/2025+

**2017 Pinot Noir – Hirschy Vineyard:** (Yamhill-Carlton, 172 cases, 30% whole cluster, SRP \$58, 13.7%). A much different aromatic profile presents its aromas of forest floor, briar, dried flowers, especially rose petal, and pretty dark berry fruit nuance. Here too there is a plush and seductive mid-palate mouthfeel that contrasts markedly with the robust, power and bold larger-bodied flavors that possess better depth and persistence if not refinement. Note that while not quite at its peak, this should be approachable now. 90/2025+



**2017 Pinot Noir – Stewart:** (Willamette Valley, 1,000 cases, SRP \$45, 13.4%). There is a vague suggestion of secondary development to the high-toned mix of cherry, red pinot fruit and pretty spice wisps. The very supple and rounded middleweight flavors possess good richness before culminating in a dusty and firm finale where a marked touch of bitter pit fruit character slowly emerges. This is attractive in its fashion but the balance isn't perfect. 87/2027+

### **Brooks Wines (Amity, OR)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Eola-Amity Hills</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Old Vines Pommard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Rastaban</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Crannell</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Red Letter</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Toluca Lane</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>

As of 2023, the winery is celebrating 50 years of growing vines and 25 years of making wines. The winery was founded in by Jimi Brooks and upon his passing in 2004, his 8-year-old son, Pascal, became the sole owner. Now an adult, Pascal is currently living in France where he has worked some harvests and focuses on greening and food projects. His aunt Janie Brooks Heuck is the Managing Director and Chris Williams is the winemaker. For more information, contact: 503.435.1278 or visit <https://www.brookswine.com>

**2021 Pinot Noir – Eola-Amity Hills:** (1,000 cases, SRP \$40, 13%). An ultra-fresh nose freely displays its aromas of various red berries, violet and a spice wisp. The delicious, supple and generously proportioned middleweight flavors possess a lush, even seductive mouthfeel, all wrapped in a lingering finish. This refreshing effort could use better depth but given a few years of keeping, it could well develop more. 89/2026+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Old Vines Pommard:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 300 cases, SRP \$60, 13.5%). A more elegant and spicier nose freely reveals aromas of cool red pinot fruit and a suggestion of exotic tea. The finer and more sophisticated medium weight flavors possess a really lovely texture while delivering solid if not exceptional persistence on the youthfully austere and mildly dusty finish. This too could use better depth but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur if given a few years first. 90/2027+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Rastaban:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 600 cases, SRP \$65, 13.5%). A cooler and equally pretty nose mixes floral and spice notes with those of mostly red berries and whisper of briar character. The sleek and detailed if not especially dense flavors possess a similar sophisticated texture thanks to the nicely fine-grained tannins supporting the mildly austere, dusty and bitter pit fruit-inflected finish. Once again, more depth would be beneficial so a few years of forbearance would help. 91/2027+

**2018 Pinot Noir – Crannell:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 400 cases, SRP \$55, 14.5%). Here the equally cool nose blends notes of red currant, cherry, plum and violet. The texture of the succulent, round and seductive but punchy middleweight flavors contrasts with the dusty and moderately raspy finish that could also use better depth so a few years of keeping should be beneficial. 90/2027+

**2018 Pinot Noir – Red Letter:** (Willamette Valley, 400 cases, SRP \$80, 14.8%). A slightly riper nose is comprised by notes of poached plum, briar and a wide range of dark berry nuances. The round, very rich and quite fleshy medium-bodied flavors possess both excellent volume and mid-palate density before terminating a powerful, serious and impressively persistent finish where the only nit is a trace of warmth. This could also use better depth but that should reasonably occur if given a few years of keeping. Lovely. 92/2028+

**2018 Pinot Noir – Toluca Lane:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 175 cases, SRP \$55, 14.7%). This is both notably ripe and quite spicy yet also quite fresh with its aromas of mostly red and blue pinot fruit. The very supple and not especially dense flavors possess an appealing mouthfeel that also contrasts with the borderline raspy and warm finish that doesn't possess the same fine length as the Red Letter. Once again, more depth would be helpful so a few years of keeping are in order. I would add that this is already sufficiently forward that it could be enjoyed young if desired. 89/2026+

### Evening Land Vineyards (Salem, OR)

2021	➔ Pinot Noir – Seven Springs	red	91
2021	Pinot Noir – Seven Springs Estate “La Source”	red	89
2021	Pinot Noir – Seven Springs Estate “Summum”	red	90

Raj Parr, a James Beard award-winning author, wine professional, and globally acknowledged sommelier, is a founding partner, proprietor and winemaker for Evening Land Vineyards (as well as Sandhi and Domaine de la Côte). In 2009, Sashi Moorman founded Provignage, a small, full-service wine company that assists with all aspects of ecological and natural approaches to viticulture and winemaking. Today this duo owns vineyards and produce the wine at Evening Land Vineyards in Oregon's Willamette Valley. For more information call 707.320.9372 or visit: [www.elvwines.com](http://www.elvwines.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Seven Springs:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 13.1%). A perfumed and extremely pretty nose freely reveals its aromas of red currant, cherry, raspberry and soft spice nuances. The super-sleek middleweight flavors possess a sophisticated mouthfeel thanks to the fine-grained tannins supporting the youthfully austere, dusty and sneaky long finish. This tightly coiled effort is clearly very young so at least a few years of keeping should be beneficial. 91/2028+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Seven Springs Estate “La Source”:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 13%). This is also both perfumed and quite pretty with its slightly more deeply pitched nose of plum, violet and crushed anise scents. Here too the medium weight flavors are blessed with a sophisticated mouthfeel though not the same concentration as the Seven Springs, all wrapped in a dusty and mildly attenuated finish that flirts with leanness. I like the refinement and punch but the overall sense of harmony isn't as complete. 89/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Seven Springs Estate “Summum”:** (Eola-Amity Hills, 13.1%). Once again the nose is highly perfumed and beautifully floral with additional nuances of briar, anise and red currant. I very much like the mouthfeel of the acceptably concentrated flavors that also possess an absolutely gorgeous mid-palate texture while displaying a similar dusty and mildly attenuated finish that is not exactly drying but neither is it as well balanced as it could be. This is one of those wines that offers much to like even though the overall sense of harmony could be better. 90/2027+

### Flâneur Wines (Carlton, OR)

2021	Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley	red	89
2019	➔ Pinot Noir – Bon Vivant	red	92
2019	➔ Pinot Noir – Cuvée Constantin	red	91
2019	Pinot Noir – Esprit de Corps	red	89
2019	➔ Pinot Noir – Flanerie Vineyard	red	91
2018	Pinot Noir – La Belle Promenade	red	90

The word flâneur describes someone who casually strolls, observing their surroundings and taking time to appreciate the details of life. With 2013 as their first vintage, Grant Coulter, the current winemaker, took over in 2016. The Flanerie Vineyard spans eight acres across Ribbon Ridge AVA, in the Willamette Valley. First planted with pinot noir in 2003, they purchased some fruit in 2013 and later acquired the entire vineyard in 2014. Their second estate vineyard, La Belle Promenade Vineyard is in the Chehalem Mountains AVA. An exposed hilltop at a rocky 820 ft. elevation, the vineyard has a cooler microclimate. At the time of their purchase in 2012, it was an abandoned orchard. Today they have 36 acres of volcanic Jory and Nekia soils planted and host tastings year-round in a historically renovated Madsen Grain Elevator and in their 100-year-old Barn. For more information, visit: [www.flaneurwines.com](http://www.flaneurwines.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley:** (788 cases, bottled under screwcap, SRP \$28, 13%). An appealingly layered mix features notes of various red berries, plum and a whiff of briar character. The fresh and energetic middleweight flavors possess good richness, indeed the texture is almost plush, which contrasts moderately with the dusty, firm and ever-so-mildly austere finale. This offers good value and I suspect that a few years of keeping will only make this more attractive. 89/2026+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Bon Vivant:** (Chehalem Mountains, 90% whole cluster, 277 cases, SRP \$95, 13%). Initially there is a touch of reduction but aggressive swirling slowly reveals an overtly floral, pure and ultra-fresh nose which reflects notes of red and dark pinot fruit, crushed fennel and exotic tea. I very much like the detail and texture of the supple but vibrant medium-bodied flavors that immediately firm up on the dusty, youthfully austere and compact finale. This could use better depth but the cellaring potential seems clear for that to progressively improve. 92/2029+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Cuvée Constantin:** (Willamette Valley, 21% whole cluster, 656 cases, SRP \$50, 14.5%). A perfumed and very pretty nose combines more subtly floral-suffused aromas of red berries and a whisper of anise. Here too the mouthfeel of the succulent medium weight flavors is quite supple, which also contrasts somewhat with the dusty, youthfully austere and lingering finish that isn't quite as compact. This too should benefit from a few years of keeping. 91/2027+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Esprit de Corps:** (Ribbon Ridge, 200 cases, SRP \$75, 13.2%). A highly attractive nose freely offers up its aromas of perfumed, spice and moderately floral dark berry scents. The sleek and delicious middleweight flavors are also attractively textured if not especially dense while exhibiting acceptable length on the dusty, bitter pit fruit-suffused finish that becomes somewhat attenuated as it sits on the palate. Note that my rating offers the benefit of the doubt that a few years of keeping will help. 89/2027+

**2019 Pinot Noir – Flanerie Vineyard:** (Ribbon Ridge, 325 cases, SRP \$60, 13.26%). Once again the expressive nose is highly attractive with its perfumed combination of exotic tea, jasmine, orange peel, violet and red and dark currant. The rich and seductively textured medium-bodied flavors possess a suave mid-palate that again contrasts with the dusty, firm and youthfully austere finale that is notably better balanced. 91/2027+

**2018 Pinot Noir – La Belle Promenade:** (Chehalem Mountains, 18% whole cluster, 784 cases, SRP \$60, 14.1%). A somber and much less expressive nose grudgingly offers up its aromas of plum, various dark berries, spice and a whiff of briar. The very supple and not particularly concentrated flavors (though by no means dilute) possess an appealing sense of underlying tension before terminating in a mildly rustic bitter cherry-inflected finish that displays solid depth and persistence. This too should benefit from a few years of keeping even though it could be enjoyed young too. 90/2027+

#### **Lange Estate Winery and Vineyards (Dundee, OR)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Estate</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➡ Pinot Noir – Freedom Hill Vineyard</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Reserve</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Three Hills Cuvée</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Yamhill-Carlton Assemblage</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>88</b>

Lange Estate Winery was founded by Wendy and Don Lange, with their inaugural vintage of pinot noir in 1987. The Langes' move north from Santa Barbara was precipitated by a few inspiring bottles from two of Oregon's most iconic producers: Eyrie and Erath. A call to Dick Erath (whose phone number was listed on the back label) convinced the Langes to embark on a scouting trip, where they settled on 30 acres in the Red Hills of Dundee. Today, their three LIVE and Salmon Safe-certified Estate vineyards span a total of 60 acres. Second generation winemaker Jesse Lange joined the winery in 2004. The current production is around 7,500 cases. For more information, contact: (503) 538-6476, or visit [www.langewinery.com](http://www.langewinery.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Estate:** (Dundee Hills, 13.5%). A pretty and very pinot nose combines notes of cool red berries with those of plum and an array of spice wisps. The nicely rich and succulent medium weight flavors possess a caressing texture while offering good persistence on the balanced and refreshing finish. This could use better depth but a few years of cellaring should progressively address that. Worth checking out. 90/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Yamhill-Carlton Assemblage:** (bottled under screw cap, 13.5%). A similar though even spicier nose leads to vibrant, if less concentrated, middleweight flavors that are sleek and delicious before terminating in a youthfully austere, dusty and ever-so-slightly edgy finish. This is perfectly good but it would be fair to observe that the balance isn't quite as well dialed in. 88/2026+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Reserve:** (Willamette Valley, bottled under screwcap, 13.5%). An equally pretty and admirably pure nose features the essence of red p into fruit, anise and a floral top note. The round and seductive, even plush, medium-bodied flavors possess both a refined and generously proportioned mouthfeel, all wrapped in a dusty, moderately firm and sneaky long finish. This youthfully austere effort could also use a bit more depth though again, a few years of bottle aging should help. This too is worth a look. 90/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Three Hills Cuvée:** (Willamette Valley, bottled under screwcap, 13.5%). A pure, elegant and distinctly cool nose somewhat grudgingly offers up its nose of plum, red cherry and an appealing hint of exotic tea, all of which is trimmed in a hint of menthol. The rich, fleshy and plump middleweight flavors are also quite seductive, the texture of which contrasts moderately with the dusty, firm and borderline robust finale. Several years of cellaring should help round off the currently firm finish as well as add some needed depth. 89/2028+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Freedom Hill Vineyard:** (Willamette Valley, 13.5%). A beautifully layered nose is comprised by notes of both blue and dark pinot fruit, violet, plum and the broadest range of spice elements in the range. The sleek and acceptably dense medium-bodied flavors possess a lovely sense of underlying tension as well as focused power while delivering fine length on the balanced, firm and nicely complex finale. This is lovely and the best wine in 2021 though note well that it too is going to need at least some patience to arrive at its peak. 92/2029+

### **Pappas Wine Co. (Portland, OR)**

<b>2018</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
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As the story goes, many years ago, while Stewart Boedecker and Athena Pappas were dating, they fell in love, and not just with one another, but with the elegant nuances of pinot noir. After marrying and crafting wines at Oregon's first shared-use winery in Carlton, Oregon, they were able to build their own sustainable urban winery in a refurbished warehouse in the heart of Northwest Portland – just a stone's throw from downtown and less than an hour from their prized vineyards, and opened Boedecker Cellars. They hold lease ownership partnerships in several vineyards, most of which they have held since they began, and, importantly, have farming control over every step of the vine's life. Each is sustainably, if not organically farmed, and selected for the variety of soils, elevations, meso-climates in the vineyard and micro-climates within the blocks. They both serve as the winemakers and Pappas Wine is the second label for Boedecker Cellars. For information call 503.866.0095 or visit: [www.boedeckercellars.com](http://www.boedeckercellars.com)

**2018 Pinot Noir – Willamette Valley:** (bottled under screwcap; 480 cases, 10% whole cluster, SRP \$29, 13.5%). A slightly grapey nose is comprised by notes of various dark berry, plum and a hint of exotic tea. The rich, plump and generous medium weight flavors possess good verve while concluding in a somewhat raspy if not exactly rustic finale that offers acceptable depth and persistence. To enjoy young. 89/2024+

### **Trisaetum Winery (Newberg, OR)**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Pinot Noir – Coast Range Estate</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Pinot Noir – Estates Reserve</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Pinot Noir – Family Reserve</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Pinot Noir – Ribbon Ridge Estate</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>➤ Pinot Noir – Wichmann Dundee Estate</b>	<b>red</b>	<b>91</b>

Trisaetum was founded in 2003 by Andrea Lassa and winemaker James Frey. Today, the family owned and operated winery in Oregon's Ribbon Ridge AVA produces small lots of pinot noir from its three estate vineyards. Their Coast Range estate is a 22-acre vineyard within the foothills of the Coast Range mountains outside the town of McMinnville and is also the site of the family home. Their second estate is a 17-acre vineyard that surrounds the winery on Ribbon Ridge outside Newberg. Their third and smallest is an 8-acre old vine vineyard in the Dundee Hills AVA named Wichmann Dundee. They are committed to farming in a manner that creates a healthy and diverse ecosystem. This includes preservation of the natural habitats that surround their vineyards, dry-farming, never using herbicides, never tilling, extensive composting, bee-friendly viticulture and hand-harvesting every cluster. They produce about 6,000 cases per year. They have bottled all of their wines under Diam brand model 10 composite corks since 2013.. Contact 503.538.9898 or visit: [www.trisaetum.com](http://www.trisaetum.com)

**2021 Pinot Noir – Coast Range Estate:** (Yamhill-Carlton, single vineyard, 25% whole cluster, 305 cases, SRP \$60, 13.3%). A softly floral-suffused nose displays additional breadth in the form of briar, plum and raspberry scents. The round and suave, even plush, medium-bodied flavors conclude in an easy-going, supple and delicious finish where a touch of bracing bitter pit fruit emerges. This could easily be enjoyed young or held for a few years with the goal of adding some depth. 89/2026+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Ribbon Ridge Estate:** (single vineyard, 560 cases, 38% whole cluster, SRP \$60, 13.7%). A cooler and more complex if more restrained nose is comprised by both red and dark pinot fruit where floral hints add a touch of elegance. There is notably better density to the bigger-bodied flavors that flash focused power and a lovely texture on the youthfully austere, more structured and solidly persistent finish that also displays a hint of bitter pit fruit character. Good stuff with the potential to match. 92/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Wichmann Dundee Estate:** (Dundee Hills, single vineyard, 325 cases, 50% whole cluster, SRP \$60, 13.1%). A more floral-inflected nose freely reveals its mix of both red and dark raspberry, crushed anise and plum hints. The super-sleek and beautifully detailed medium-bodied flavors aren't as concentrated but they finer as they possess a really lovely, even sophisticated, texture thanks to the fine-grained tannins shaping the balanced and youthfully austere finale. This could use better depth, but more should be on the way if given a few years of cellaring. 91/2027+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Estates Reserve:** (Willamette Valley, a combination of 3 estate vineyards, 255 cases, 50% whole cluster, SRP \$80, 13.3%). This is slightly cooler and more restrained with its spicy combination of red and blue pinot fruit, violet and exotic tea nuances. The very supple, even pliant, middleweight flavors are quite easy-going on the mid-palate that immediately tightens up on the dusty and solidly complex if perhaps not quite as persistent a finish as the best in the range. Even so, this is also lovely and worth considering. 91/2029+

**2021 Pinot Noir – Family Reserve:** (Willamette Valley, a combination of 3 estate vineyards, 112 cases, 67% whole cluster, SRP \$100, 13.7%). A beautiful nose is comprised by a plethora of floral and spice wisps on the red berry fruit where a touch of jasmine tea appears. Here too there is very good volume to the sleek, punchy and nicely detailed medium-bodied flavors that possess a highly sophisticated mouthfeel, all wrapped in a youthfully austere, compact and powerful finish. This strikingly pretty effort is however quite serious and tightly wound so patience strongly advised. 93/2031+

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## **In the Next Issue**

**The 2022 and 2021 Vintages in Chablis, the Mâconnais and the Côte Chalonnaise**

**Current Release California and Oregon Pinot Noir**

**Current Release Champagne**

**Beaujolais Special Report**

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