



Wine List

Café des Amis Wine List

Welcome to Café des Amis! We hope that you will enjoy the delicious all-French wine list we have assembled for your dining pleasure.

You may notice that each of the wines on the list has a column indicating the price per bottle (as well as the price per glass, where applicable). This column shows a page number. Each page will have information about the specific wines on the corresponding page.

It is, in essence, a Table of Contents.

Merci!

WINES BY THE GLASS

GLASS

BOTTLE

SPARKLING

Picamelot Brut Blanc de Blanc, NV
Le Mesnil Brut Blanc de Blanc Grand Cru

Chardonnay · France
Chardonnay · Champagne

10.50

35

WHITE WINES

E. Guigal Cotes-du-Rhone Blanc 2021
Domaine de la Ferrandiere, 2021
Château Lamothe de Haux, 2020
Dom. de Vaufruges Vouvray, 2020
Pierre Sparr 'Alsace One,' 2020
Cote de Beaune la chapelle, 1er Cru 2020

Viognier, marsanne, Roussane · Cotes-du-Rhone
Chardonnay · Southwest France
Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon · Bordeaux
Chenin Blanc · Loire Valley
Pinot Blanc · Alsace
Chardonnay · Macon-Verze, Burgundy

12.50

41

8.00

31

10.00

37

10.00

37

12.50

41

29.00

ROSÉ WINES

Château St Cyrgues, 2021

Grenache, Syrah · Costieres de Nimes

10.00

29

RED WINES

Château Floreal Laguens, 2020
Bichot 'Horizon,' 2021
Domaine Rose Dieu, 2019
Le Roc 'La Folle Noire d'Ambat, 2019
Mas de Chevalier
Chateau de Jarnioux Beaujolais, 2021
Benjamin Leroux 1er Cru 'la piece sous le Bois,' 2018

Merlot, Cabernets · Bordeaux Superieur
Pinot Noir · Burgundy
Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre · Cotes du Rhone-Villages
Negrette · Fronton
Cabernet · Pays d'Oc
Gamay · Beaujolais
Pinot Noir · Blagny, Burgundy

12.00

39

12.00

39

12.00

39

12.00

39

9.00

34

12.00

39

39.00

DESSERT WINE

Carmes de Rieussec, 2016
Quinta dos Pesos, 1991

Sémillon, Sauvignon Blanc · Sauternes
Arinto, Gallego Dourado, Ratinho · Carcavelos

7.00 (2oz)

65

15.00 (2oz)

Can't finish the bottle of wine that you are enjoying? Café des Amis can seal the bottle for you to take with you at the end of your meal!

HALF BOTTLE SELECTION

Le Mesnil Brut Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru
Pierre Gerbais Champagne Extra Brut 'Grains de Celles'
Albert-Bichot, 2017

Champagne
Champagne
Puligny-Montrachet

49 (375ml)

p.4

48 (375ml)

p.10

85

p.62

CHAMPAGNE, SPARKLING, WHITE, ROSE WINE BY THE BOTTLE**BOTTLE****PAGE****CHAMPAGNE - NON VINTAGE****2**

Jacquesson Extra Brut 'Cuvee No. 744,' Extra-Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	158	p.3
Pierre Gerbais 'Grains de Celles,' Extra-Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	95	p.10
Pierre Gerbais 'Grains de Celles,' Extra Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	48 (375ml)	p.10
Prevost La Closerie 'Les Beguines,' Extra Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	250	p.11
Le Mesnil Brut Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru, Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	85	p.4
Le Mesnil Brut Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru, Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	49 (375ml)	p.4
Gosset Brut 'Grande Reserve,' Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	120	p.6
Veuve Cliquot, Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	120	p.7
Bollinger 'Special Cuvee – 007 Edition,' Brut	<i>Champagne</i>	150	p.11
Le Mesnil 'Sublime' Grand Cru, Brut	<i>Champagne, Rosé</i>	96	p.4
Gosset 'Grand Reserve,' Brut	<i>Champagne, Rosé</i>	150	p.6

CHAMPAGNE – VINTAGE

Bereche 'Rive Gauche,' Extra-Brut, 2017	<i>Champagne</i>	145	p.9
Bollinger 'Grande Année,' Brut, 2008	<i>Champagne</i>	325	p.5
Bollinger 'Grande Année,' Brut, 2012	<i>Champagne</i>	290	p.5
Dom Perignon, Brut, 2010	<i>Champagne</i>	310	p.8
Veuve Cliquot Brut 'Grande Dame,' Brut, 2008	<i>Champagne</i>	362	p.7
Louis Roederer 'Cristal,' Brut, 2013	<i>Champagne</i>	550	p.13
Taitinger 'Comtes de Champagne,' Blanc de Blancs, Brut, 2007	<i>Champagne</i>	450	p.12
Taitinger 'Comtes de Champagne,' Blanc de Blancs, Brut, 2011	<i>Champagne</i>	450	p.12
Taitinger 'Comtes de Champagne,' Brut, 2007	<i>Champagne, Rosé</i>	460	p.13

CHAMPAGNE – LARGE FORMAT

Bereche 'Reserve,' Brut, NV	<i>Champagne</i>	699 (3L Jeroboam)	p.9
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OTHER SPARKLING WINES

Picamelot Blanc de Blancs, Brut NV,	<i>France</i>	35	p.14
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STILL ROSÉ WINES BY THE BOTTLE

		BOTTLE	PAGE
Roger & Christophe Moreaux, 2021	<i>Sancerre</i>	59	p.14
Château St. Cyrgues, 2021	<i>Costieres de Nimes</i>	29	p.15
Château Peyrassol 'La Croix,' 2021	<i>Provence</i>	45	p.15

WHITE WINES BY THE BOTTLE

ALSACE

			16
Pfister Pinot Gris, 2016	<i>Alsace</i>	62	p.17
Pierre Sparr 'Alsace One, 2020	<i>Alsace</i>	41	p.17
Domaine Ostertag Riesling, 2020	<i>Alsace</i>	59	p.18
Domaine Ostertag Pinot Blanc, 2020	<i>Alsace</i>	59	p.18
Domaine Ostertag Sylvaner VV, 2020	<i>Alsace</i>	59	p.19
Domaine Ernest Burn Pinot Gris 'Clos St-Imer' Grand Cru, 2010	<i>Alsace</i>	85	p.19
Albert Boxler Gewurztraminer 'Reserve, 2018	<i>Alsace</i>	99	p.20
Albert Boxler Gewurztraminer 'Brand' Grand Cru, 2016	<i>Alsace</i>	150	p.20

BORDEAUX

			27
Château Lamothe de Haux, 2021	<i>Bordeaux</i>	37	p.28
Clos des Lunes, 2020	<i>Pessac-Léognan</i>	45	p.28

BURGUNDY - CHABLIS

VILLAGE

			51
Albert Bichot, 2021	<i>Chablis</i>	49	p.52

PREMIER CRU

Pattes Loup 'Les Butteaux,' 2017	<i>Chablis</i>	140	p.52
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GRAND CRU

Domaine Long-Depaquit 'Les Clos,' 2019	<i>Chablis</i>	180	p.53
Domaine Long-Depaquit 'Blanchots,' 2019	<i>Chablis</i>	170	p.54
Lucien Lemoine 'Les Preuses,' 2018	<i>Chablis</i>	870 (1.5L Magnum)	p.55
Lucien Lemoine 'Les Preuses,' 2019	<i>Chablis</i>	362	p.55

WHITE WINES, CONT'D**BOTTLE****PAGE****BURGUNDY & BURGUNDY - MACONNAISE**

Bruno Clair Aligoté, 2018	<i>Burgundy</i>	55	p.56
Benjamin Leroux, 2020	<i>Burgundy</i>	62	p.56
Alvina Pernot 'Femelottes,' 2021	<i>Burgundy</i>	75	p.57
Héritières du Comte-Lafon, 2020	<i>Saint-Veran</i>	79	p.58
Héritiers du Comte-Lafon, 2019	<i>Viré-Clessé</i>	79	p.58
Marie-Pierre Manciat 'Les Petites Bruyeres,' 2021	<i>Pouilly-Fuisse</i>	55	p.59

PREMIER CRU

Albert Bichot, 2018	<i>Montagny</i>	75	p.59
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BURGUNDY - COTE D'OR**VILLAGE**

Domaines des Comtes-Lafon, 2017	<i>Meursault</i>	185	p.61
Domaines des Comtes-Lafon 'Clos de la Barre,' 2017	<i>Meursault</i>	275	p.61
Domaines des Comtes-Lafon 'Clos de la Barre,' 2019	<i>Meursault</i>	300	p.61
Albert Bichot, 2016	<i>Meursault</i>	120	p.62
Albert Bichot, 2016	<i>Puligny-Montrachet</i>	85 (375ml)	p.62
Domaine Leflaive, 2019	<i>Puligny-Montrachet</i>	395	p.66

51**PREMIER CRU**

Alvina Pernot 'Le pièce sous Bois,' 2020	<i>Meursault</i>	175	p.60
Lucien Le Moine 'Les Terres Blanches,' 2020	<i>Nuits-Saint-Georges</i>	359	p.60
Alvina Pernot 'Les Chalumaux,' 2020	<i>Puligny-Montrachet</i>	200	p.65
Alvina Pernot 'Clos de la Garenne,' 2020	<i>Puligny-Montrachet</i>	200	p.65
Jean-Charles Fagot, 2021	<i>Chassagne-Montrachet</i>	189	p.66
Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'Les Reversees,' 2015	<i>Beaune</i>	115	p.67
Domaine Leflaive 'Clavoillon,' 2019	<i>Puligny-Montrachet</i>	450	p.68

GRAND CRU

Lucien Le Moine, 2014	<i>Corton-Charlemagne</i>	450	p.64
Alvina Pernot, 2021	<i>Corton Charlemagne</i>	580	p.64
Domaine Leflaive, 2018	<i>Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet</i>	1900	p.69
Lucien Le Moine, 2019	<i>Batard-Montrachet</i>	1800	p.70

WHITE WINES, CONT'D**LOIRE VALLEY & SAVOIE**

	BOTTLE	PAGE
Domaine des Baumard, 1967	<i>Quarts de Chaume</i>	400 p.104
Domaine des Baumard 'Clos du Papillon,' 2016	<i>Savennières</i>	99 p.104
Domaine de Vaufray, 2021	<i>Vouvray</i>	37 p.105
Paul Cherrier, 2021	<i>Sancerre</i>	53 p.105
Arnaud Lambert Brézé 'Clos de Midi,' 2021	<i>Saumur</i>	42 p.106
Thibaud Boudignon 'Clos de la Hutte,' 2018	<i>Savennières</i>	149 p.106
Famille Joly Savennieres Monopole, 2019	<i>Clos de la Coulee de Serrant</i>	290 p.107

SOUTHERN RHONE

E. Guigal, 2021	<i>Côtes du Rhone</i>	41 p.128
Rotem & Mounir Saouma 'Inopia,' 2016	<i>Côtes du Rhône</i>	75 p.127
M. Chapoutier 'La Bernardine,' 2021	<i>Chateauneuf du Pape</i>	150 p.127

NORTHERN RHONE

Jean-Louis Chave 'Circa,' 2020	<i>St-Joseph</i>	63 p.110
E. Guigal 'Ex Voto,' 2015	<i>Hermitage</i>	560 p.111
M. Chapoutier 'Chante Allouette,' 2018	<i>Hermitage</i>	290 p.111
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2018	<i>Hermitage</i>	525 p.112
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2019	<i>Hermitage</i>	525 p.112
Domaine Georges Vernay 'Chaillées de l'Enfer,' 2018	<i>Condrieu</i>	262 p.113
E. Guigal 'La Doriane, 2020	<i>Condrieu</i>	245 p.113

SOUTHWESTERN FRANCE

Domaine de la Ferrandiere Chardonnay, 2021	<i>Pays d'Oc</i>	31 p.138
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RED WINES BY THE BOTTLE

BEAUJOLAIS & BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGE

Château de Jarnioux, 2021	<i>Beaujolais</i>	39	p.22
Jean-Marc Burgaud 'Les Vignes des Lantignié,' 2021	<i>Beaujolais-Villages</i>	36	p.23

CRU BEAUJOLAIS

Laurent Perrachon 'Terres Roses,' 2020	<i>Moulin-A-Vent</i>	39	p.25
Jean-Marc Burgaud 'Côtes du Py,' 2021	<i>Morgon</i>	45	p.23
Jean-Marc Burgaud 'James,' 2019	<i>Morgon</i>	75	p.24
Jean-Marc Burgaud 'Javernieres,' 2019	<i>Morgon</i>	68	p.25
Lucien Le Moine, 2019	<i>Morgon</i>	490 (1.5L Magnum)	p.26

BORDEAUX SUPERIEUR

Château Floreal Laguens, 2020	<i>Bordeaux Supérieur</i>	39	p.29
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BORDEAUX – RIGHT BANK

Château Puygueraud, 2019	<i>Francs – Côtes de Bordeaux</i>	58	p.30
Château Mayne-Vieil 'Cuvee Alienor,' 2018	<i>Fronsac</i>	39	p.30
Château Pierrefitte, 2018	<i>Lalande-de-Pomerol</i>	49	p.31
Château Evangile, 2008	<i>Pomerol</i>	490	p.31
Château Le Fleur-Pétrus, 2019	<i>Pomerol</i>	640	p.32
Château Fombrauge, 2018	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	110	p.33
Château Bois Cardinal, 2012	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	59	p.33
Château Angelus 'Carillon d'Angelus,' 2018	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	285	p.34
Château Angelus, 2016	<i>St-Émilion Premier Grand Cru Class A</i>	1200	p.34
Château Pontet-Fumet, 2015	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	65	p.35
Château Grand-Pontet, 2018	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	79	p.35
Château Figeac, 2010	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	650	p.36
Château Figeac, 2015	<i>St-Émilion Grand Cru</i>	542	p.36

RED WINES, CONT'D**BOTTLE****PAGE****BORDEAUX – LEFT BANK****27**

Château Gloria, 2015	<i>Saint-Julien</i>	122	p.37
Château Gloria, 2010	<i>Saint-Julien</i>	180	p.37
Château Gloria 'Esprit de Gloria,' 2018	<i>Saint-Julien</i>	75	p.38
Château Léoville Las Cases, 1989	<i>Saint-Julien (Second Growth)</i>	850	p.39
Château Léoville Las Cases, 2000	<i>Saint-Julien(Second Growth)</i>	925	p.39
Château Cos d'Estournel 'Les Pagodes De Cos,' 2018	<i>Saint-Estéphe</i>	165	p.40
Château Alias Croizet-Bages, 2011	<i>Pauillac</i>	89	p.41
Château Pichon Longueville Baron, 2005	<i>Pauillac (Second Growth)</i>	700	p.42
Château Latour, 1996	<i>Pauillac</i>	2500	p.43
Château Latour, 2009	<i>Pauillac</i>	3200	p.44
Château Palmer, 2005	<i>Margaux</i>	950	p.45
Château d'Issan, 2017	<i>Margaux</i>	79	p.47
Château Margaux, 1996	<i>Margaux</i>	2800	p.46
Château Pape Clement, 2018	<i>Pessac-Léognan</i>	320	p.47
Château Pape Clement 'Clémentin de Pape Clement,' 2018	<i>Pessac-Léognan</i>	120	p.48
Château Pape Clement 'Prelat de Pape Clement,' 2018	<i>Graves</i>	40 (375ml)	p.48
Château la Tour Carnet, 2018	<i>Haut-Médoc (Fourth Growth)</i>	107	p.49
Château Citran, 2010	<i>Haut-Médoc</i>	99	p.49
Château Citran, 2015	<i>Haut-Médoc</i>	69	p.50
Château Citran, 2018	<i>Haut-Médoc</i>	59	p.50

BORDEAUX – LARGE FORMAT

Château Montrose, 2006	<i>Saint-Estéphe</i>	670 (1.5L Magnum)	p.40
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RED WINES, CONT'D**BOTTLE****PAGE****BURGUNDY – BOURGOGNE & COTE CHALONNAISE****51**

Benjamin Leroux, 2020

Burgundy

62

p.71

Gaëlle & Jérôme Meunier, 2015

Mercurey

87

P.71

BURGUNDY – COTE DE BEAUNE**51****VILLAGE**

Simon Bize, 2017

Savigny-les-Beaune

95

p.95

PREMIER CRU

Nicolas Potel 'Clos Rousseau,' 2017

Santenay

112

p.101

Nicolas Potel 'les Valozieres,' 2015

Aloxe-Corton

140

P.102

Domaines des Comtes Lafon 'les Santenots du Milieu,' 2017

Volnay

375

p.101

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'Clos de la Chapelle' Monopole, 2017

Volnay

190

p.99,100

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'Clos de la Chapelle' Monopole, 2011

Volnay

250

p.99,100

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'les Tailepieds,' 2019

Volnay

150

p.99,100

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'Champs Pimont,' 2015

Beaune

117

p.99

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle 'Grands Epenots,' 2017

Pommard

180

p.99

Benjamin Leroux 'Rugiens-Hauts,' 2015

Pommard

270

p.98

Benjamin Leroux 'Rugiens-Hauts,' 2017

Pommard

255

p.98

Bruno Clair 'La Dominode,' 2014

Savigny-les-Beaune

165

p.77,97

Benjamin Leroux 'les Haut Jarrons,' 2017

Savigny-les-Beaune

160

p.96

Simon Bize 'les Vergelesses, 2017

Savigny-les-Beaune

160

p.96

Benjamin Leroux 'La Piece Sous les Bois,' 2016

Blagny

135

p.97

GRAND CRU

Domaine Clos de la Chapelle, 2015

Corton-Rognet

250

p.99

Nicolas Potel 'Les Renardes,' 2017

Corton

275

p.102

VILLAGE

Lucien Le Moine 'Aux Champs Perdrix,' 2019	<i>Vosne Romanée</i>	400	p.72
Benjamin Leroux, 2015	<i>Vosne Romanée</i>	195	p.73
Benjamin Leroux, 2017	<i>Vosne Romanée</i>	175	p.73
Benjamin Leroux, 2015	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	175	p.76
Benjamin Leroux, 2017	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	175	p.76
Bruno Clair, 2014	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	175	p.77,78
Bruno Clair Les Longeroies,' 2018	<i>Marsannay</i>	120	p.77,80
Bruno Clair Les Longeroies,' 2019	<i>Marsannay</i>	120	p.76,80
Benjamin Leroux, 2017	<i>Chambolle-Musigny</i>	185	p.83
Benjamin Leroux 'Les Allots,' 2017	<i>Nuits-Saint-Georges</i>	140	p.83
Jacques Frederic Mugnier, 2017	<i>Chambolle-Musigny</i>	240	p.84

PREMIER CRU

Domaine du Clos Frantin 'Les Malconsorts,' 2020	<i>Vosne Romanée</i>	575	p.74
Bruno Clair 'Clos du Fonteny' Monopole, 2015	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	359	p.77,79
Bruno Clair 'Clos du Fonteny' Monopole, 2017	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	327	p.77,79
Bruno Clair 'Clos du Fonteny' Monopole, 2019	<i>Gevrey Chambertin</i>	327	p.77,79
Lucien Le Moine 'Les Vaucrains,' 2015	<i>Nuits-Saint-Georges</i>	325	p.87,88
Château Gris, 2016	<i>Nuits-Saint-Georges</i>	170	p.82
Jacques-Frédéric Mugnier 'Clos de la Maréchale,' 2017	<i>Nuits-Saint-Georges</i>	205	p.84
Albert Bichot 'Les Amoureuses,' 2013	<i>Chambolle-Musigny</i>	590	p.85
Albert Bichot 'Clos de la Perriere,' 2019	<i>Fixin</i>	165	p.85

RED WINES, CONT'D

	BOTTLE	PAGE
BURGUNDY – COTE DE NUITS		
GRAND CRU		
Francois Lamarche 'La Grande Rue' Monopole, 2014	<i>Vosne-Romanée</i>	750 p.74
Lucien Le Moine, 2019	<i>Grands Echezeaux</i>	1500 p.75
Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, 2014	<i>Echezeaux</i>	3000 p.92
Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, 2009	<i>Romanee-St-Vivant</i>	5000 p.93
Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, 2018	<i>Romanee-St-Vivant</i>	4000 p.94
Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, 2019	<i>Romanee-St-Vivant</i>	5000 p.95
Lucien Le Moine 'Clos St Denis,' 2011	<i>Morey-Saint-Denis</i>	415 p.87,88
Benjamin Leroux 'Clos St Denis,' 2016	<i>Morey-Saint-Denis</i>	550 p.82
Domaine de la Pousse d'Or 'Clos de la Roche,' 2018	<i>Morey-Saint-Denis</i>	960 p.81
Lucien Le Moine 'Clos de Beze,' 2015	<i>Chambertin</i>	1200 p.87,89
Lucien Le Moine 'Clos de Beze,' 2019	<i>Chambertin</i>	1430 p.87,89
Lucien Le Moine 'Charmes Chambertin,' 2015	<i>Chambertin</i>	555 p.87,90
Domaine du Clos Frantin, 2017	<i>Clos-de-Vougeot</i>	480 p.86
Albert-Bichot, 2019	<i>Richebourg</i>	2500 p.86
Bruno Clair, 2018	<i>Bonnes Mares</i>	880 p.91
LOIRE VALLEY		
Pascal Lambert 'Les Terrasses', 2020	<i>Chinon</i>	57 p.107
Arnaud Lambert 'Brézé Mazurique,' 2021	<i>Saumur</i>	38 p.108
Bertrand Galbrun 'Amicale' Cabernet Franc, 2019	<i>Bourgueil</i>	53 p.108

RED WINES, CONT'D**BOTTLE****PAGE****NORTHERN RHONE****109**

Vincent Paris 'Granit 60', 2017	<i>Cornas</i>	115	p.114
Vincent Paris 'Granit 60', 2021	<i>Cornas</i>	115	p.114
Vincent Paris 'La Geynale,' 2017	<i>Cornas</i>	130	p.115
Vincent Paris 'La Geynale,' 2018	<i>Cornas</i>	130	p.115
Vincent Paris 'La Geynale,' 2021	<i>Cornas</i>	130	p.115
Jean-Louis Chave Selection 'Offerus,' 2020	<i>St. Joseph</i>	62	p.116
E. Guigal 'Lieu Dit,' 2019	<i>St. Joseph</i>	150	p.118
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2019	<i>St. Joseph</i>	157	p.117
Jean-Louis Chave Selection 'Farconnet,' 2016	<i>Hermitage</i>	150	p.116
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2014	<i>Hermitage</i>	465	p.119
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2018	<i>Hermitage</i>	550	p.120
Jean-Louis Chave Estate, 2019	<i>Hermitage</i>	550	p.120
E. Guigal 'Ex Voto,' 2015	<i>Hermitage</i>	675	p.121
M. Chapoutier 'Petite Ruche', 2018	<i>Crozes-Hermitage</i>	65	p.121
Domaine Georges Vernay 'Fleur du Mai,' 2018	<i>Collines Rhodaniennes</i>	75	p.125
E. Guigal 'Brune et Blonde,' 2017	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	175	p.122
E. Guigal 'Château d'Ampuis,' 2016	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	275	p.122
E. Guigal 'La Landonne,' 2012	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	800	p.123
E. Guigal 'La Landonne,' 2013	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	800	p.123
E. Guigal 'La Landonne,' 2015	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	900	p.123
E. Guigal 'La Mouline,' 2015	<i>Côte-Rôtie</i>	900	p.124

RED WINES, CONT'D**BOTTLE****PAGE****SOUTHERN RHONE****126**

Château de Fonsalette, 2009	<i>Côtes-du-Rhône</i>	700	p.136
Château de Fonsalette, 2010	<i>Côtes-du-Rhône</i>	600	p.136
Rotem & Mounir Saouma 'Inopia,' 2017	<i>Côtes-du-Rhône</i>	75	p.132
Domaine Lafond, 2020	<i>Lirac</i>	39	p.129
Domaine Rose Dieu, 2020	<i>Plan de Dieu Côtes-du-Rhône-Villages</i>	39	p.129
Les Sang des Cailloux, 2019	<i>Vaqueyras</i>	65	p.130
E. Guigal, 2019	<i>Gigondas</i>	64	p.130
Domaine de Saje, 2019	<i>Chateauneuf-du-Pape</i>	90	p.135
Domaine Chaussy 'Cuvée Selection,' 2020	<i>Chateauneuf-du-Pape</i>	99	p.131
Clos Saouma 'Arioso,' 2014	<i>Chateauneuf-du-Pape</i>	383	p.132
Clos Saouma 'Omnia,' 2016	<i>Chateauneuf-du-Pape</i>	196	p.132
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SOUTHWESTERN FRANCE

Le Roc 'La Folle Noire d'Ambat' Negrette, 2019	<i>Fronton</i>	39	p.139
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DESSERT WINES BY THE BOTTLE

“Any man who eats dessert is not drinking enough.”

-Ernest Hemingway

Carmes de Rieussec, 2016
Château Guiraud, 2009
Château Guiraud, 2015

Sauternes
Sauternes
Sauternes

65 (375ml)
150
85 (375ml)

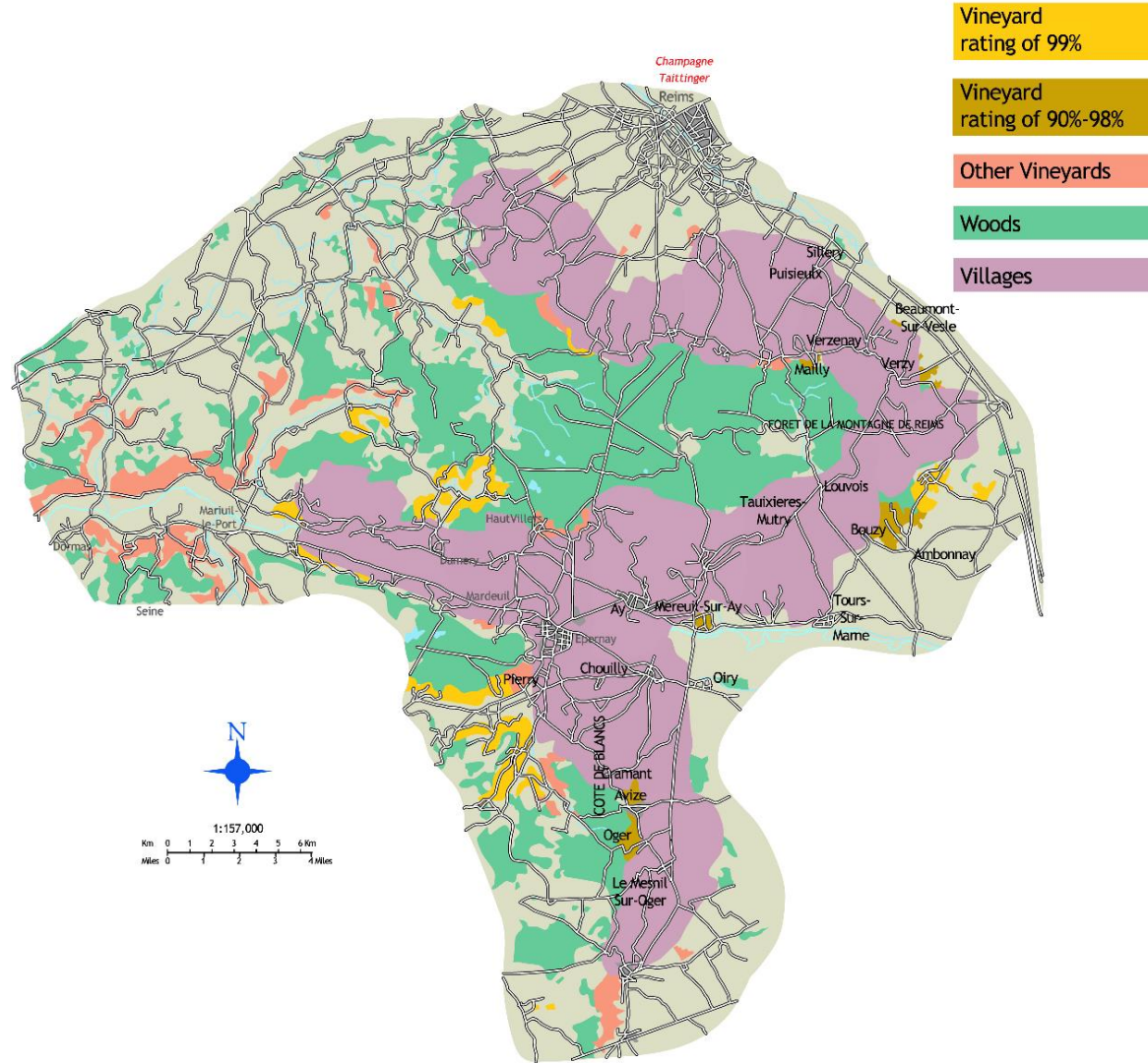
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Can't finish the bottle of wine that you are enjoying? Café des Amis can seal the bottle for you to take with you at the end of your meal!





Champagne



3 CHAMPAGNE

JACQUESSON

'Cuvée No. 744' Extra Brut NV

Cepages:

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Muenier

This Jacquesson, non-vintage Brut Champagne benefits from a star treatment and bares a mysterious number for unfamiliar wine lovers. This cuvée n° 744 by Jacquesson is powerful yet complex with great texture and a heavenly minerality. Jacquesson is half-way between a Champagne house and a grower Champagne, a wine to be shared with newcomers and connoisseurs alike.

Disgorged in February 2021 with 0.75 grams per liter dosage, the NV Extra-Brut Cuvée No. 744 is based on the 2016 vintage. Exhibiting complex aromas of orange oil, crisp stone fruit, fenugreek and subtle hints of yellow Chartreuse, it's medium to full-bodied, pillowy and seamless, with terrific depth at the core, lively acids and a pinpoint mousse. Simultaneously vivid but replete with sapid nuance, this new release throws into relief all the work the Jacquesson brothers have made in the vineyards and cellar over the last two decades.



\$158

A BRIEF PRIMER ON CHAMPAGNE

Champagne may be one of the least understood types of wine in the world...and it is also one of the most wonderful! Many people think only of Champagne when it is time for a celebration, but it is also wonderful with food. The effervescence of Champagne makes the wine a natural palate cleanser!

Most large Champagne houses (Bollinger, Veuve Clicquot, etc) tend to purchase grapes from hundreds growers of grapes. Most of the nearly 16,000 grape growers in Champagne do not produce their own wine; rather they sell their grapes to the large houses. These wines will be labeled with the letters **NM (Negociant Manipulant)**.

'Growers Champagnes,' that is, Champagnes made only from vineyards the winemaker themselves own. Available in much smaller quantities than the large houses, these can be absolute jewels worth seeking out. These will be labeled with the letters **RM (Récoltant Manipulant)**.

Cooperatives are a third type of producer, where a group of growers band together to produce a Champagne made only from the members' grapes. Champagne Le Mesnil is a perfect example of a **CM (Co-operative-Manipulant)**.

Brut – this is a measure of sweetness in a wine. Most sparkling wines (aside from Moscato) will be labeled as 'Brut.' The only 2 dryer versions are Extra Brut and Brut Nature, which are rarely seen in the US.

Blanc de Blanc – a white wine made from white grapes (Chardonnay, almost exclusively)

Blanc de Noirs – a white wine made from red grapes – typically Pinot Noir and sometimes Pinot Meunier

Rosé – a Champagne that is pink in color, which can be made from red grapes exclusively, or with the addition of Chardonnay.



LE MESNIL

Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru Brut NV

Cepage:
Chardonnay

The fruit for this outstanding Blanc de Blancs is sourced from the same village Krug and Salon make their incredibly expensive luxury Champagnes (which sell for \$500+). Founded in 1937, Le Mesnil produce 100% Chardonnay cuvees from Grand Cru vineyards on the chalk soils of the Cotes de Blancs. The house takes its name from the town 'Le Mesnil-sur-Oger', only 17 Villages in the Champagne region with the right to the designation 'Grand Cru'. This is arguably the greatest vineyard in the Champagne for Chardonnay!

Yeasty, baked bread notes are followed by some brioche and a hint of citrus on the nose. The palate is surprisingly full and rich for a Blanc de Blancs with mouthfilling flavors of yeast lees, baked bread, cashew and biscuit. Creamy texture and excellent length. Long aftertaste of yeast lees, baked bread and brioche. This is an incredibly versatile wine with our cuisine.

Rather than having this to start a meal, consider having Le Mesnil through the entire meal! This is our House Champagne, and one of the all-time greatest values in Champagne!

\$85 750ml
\$49 375ml half bottle



LE MESNIL

'Sublime' Rosé Grand Cru Brut NV

Cepages:
Chardonnay, Pinot Noir

While Champagne LeMesnil may be most known for their gorgeous Blanc de Blanc, the Sublime has charmed us time after time. And after customers have asked us if they can buy cases of this to take home, it seemed sensible to put the wine on our list.

The aptly-named 'Sublime' rose is a combination of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir with nearly 35% reserve wines, to give the wine more complexity and to preserve the house style.

This wine has seductive aromas, reminiscent of a summer breeze and a lovely fruity palate. An elegant wine, ideal as an *aperitif* but can also be enjoyed throughout a meal.

There is enough weight here to pair beautifully with red meats, or as a special treat, try it with a dessert featuring red fruits.

\$96 750ml bottle

5 CHAMPAGNE

BOLLINGER

'Grande Anée' Brut 2008

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

Bollinger's prestige cuvée is the vintage-dated 'La Grande Année,' made of roughly two-thirds Pinot Noir and one-third Chardonnay. It is produced only when the harvest reaches a perfect balance; the very early harvest and fresh qualities of the year 2008 make this vintage exceptional. This wine ferments entirely in oak barrels, and undergoes its second fermentation under cork instead of crown capsule.

In 1976, Bollinger Vintage became Grande Année; then, in 1997, "La" Grande Année, a name simple enough to illustrate its exceptional status. This prestige cuvée made its silver screen debut two years later, in James Bond's Casino Royale.

Bollinger's 2008 La Grande Année is superb, wafting from the glass with aromas of crisp orchard fruit, ripe lemons, honeycomb, warm biscuits, white flowers and a delicate note of walnuts. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied, broad and vinous, with a beautifully refined mousse, superb concentration at the tightly wound core, incisive acids and a supremely elegant intermingling of Bollinger's oxidative stylistic signatures with fresh, vibrant fruit. The finish is long, precise and chalky. What a wine!

\$325



BOLLINGER

'Grande Anée' Brut 2012

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

It had been four years between vintages of Bollinger's 'LGA,' underscoring the wineries dedication to only release this legendary wine in exceptional vintages.

We have procured as much of this gorgeous wine as we could, hoping to have some left many years down the line...but the wine is so stunning now that it is difficult to overcome the urge to drink it young.

Bollinger's 2012 Brut La Grande Année is showing well, offering up an incipiently complex bouquet of crisp yellow orchard fruit, fresh peach, orange oil, toasted walnuts and dried apricot that's still quite reserved with less than a year on cork. Full-bodied, deep and muscular, the 2012 is blockier and broader-shouldered than its 2008 predecessor, with a weightier and even more concentrated palate built around a bright spine of acidity, concluding with a chalky finish that carries appreciably dry extract.

To drink this wine is to be in love with Champagne.

\$290

CHAMPAGNE GOSSET*'Grande Réserve' Brut NV***Cépages:**

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Muenier

Gosset Grande Réserve is a truly faithful expression of the Gosset style. To achieve a cuvee of this quality, the cellar-master has blended the best of the various champagne crus at the grape-harvest with wines specially chosen from our reserve stocks for their richness and maturity.

Over the last several decades, the Gosset style has remained consistent—the wines show a sophisticated style that highlights the flavors and nuances of their reserve wines. The Gosset Grande Réserve Champagne offers creaminess and smooth textures.

The nose opens with the fresh ripeness of yellow apple and highlights of Granny Smith. It has beautifully subtle autolysis on the palate, deepening into notes of creamy apple crumble, Golden Delicious and Mirabelle plum, while remaining utterly strait-laced. Elegance, length and absolute freshness are inherent and quietly convincing.

\$120**CHAMPAGNE GOSSET***'Grand Rosé' Brut NV***Cépages:**

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir

Gosset is a venerable house dating back to 1584 (it is actually the oldest house in Champagne, pre-dating Champagne as we know it now!).

It has seemed to us the Rosé Champagnes have been getting both fruitier and darker in color over the past several years, but here is one that recalls a more classic style. It distantly hints at cherries but fixes its focus on minerals and yeast in its aromas, and it follows with a full slate of toasty, champenized traits on the palate. It is explosively foamy but very creamy in feel with a fine lift of brightening acidity lending great length to its finish, and its impressive depth is never dependent on bulk. It is a wine for drinking with meals rather than being quaffed all alone, and it is sure to age effortlessly.

Pale pink; minerals and racy acidity; raspberry, crisp citrus and elegant style' vibrant and long. As with the Brut 'Excellence,' the Grande Rosé never goes through malolactic fermentation.

\$150

7 CHAMPAGNE



Veuve Clicquot is one of the most famous Champagnes in the world. Since its founding in 1772, Clicquot has not only been heralded for its wine, but also for the courage and creativity of Madame Clicquot who is regarded as being the first businesswoman of the modern era. From the well-known 'Yellow Label' to the Grande Dame prestige cuvees which pay homage to the '*grande dame de la Champagne*,' Madame Clicquot, for many, Veuve Cliquot is synonymous with Champagne.

VEUVE CLICQUOT

Brut NV

Cépages:

Pinot Meunier, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir

The well-known "Yellow Label" has become synonymous with quality. The layers of citrus and minerality from the Chardonnay, brambly berry from the Pinot Meunier, and the refined full structure from the Pinot Noir, which is the dominant variety in this blend, makes this an outstanding Non-Vintage Champagne.

This is an elegant style of Champagne whose understated apple and butter flavors are well balanced by crisp acidity.

\$120

VEUVE CLICQUOT

'Grande Dame Brut 2008

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

This is a sunny and delicious 2008, with brightness infusing the wine. Exhibiting aromas of pear, toasted bread, confit citrus and smoke, the 2008 Brut La Grande Dame is full-bodied, rich and textural, with a deep and layered core, ripe but racy acids and a saline finish. A blend dominated by fully 92% Pinot Noir, this is true to the cuvée's rich and muscular style, but the vintage lends it welcome additional cut and precision.

This is a classic wine from a fantastic vintage.

\$362



DOM PERIGNON

Brut, 2010

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

Dom Pérignon could very well be the most celebrated champagne brand in the world, so it's only natural that people get excited when a new vintage is released. The **2010** vintage was not declared as a vintage by most Champagne houses, but *chef de cave* Vincent Chaperon is vocal in his enthusiasm for the wine. The winery took the unusual step to leave the Pinot Noir grapes on the vine longer to ripen fully, even knowing that there was a good chance they would lose a large percentage of the harvest to Botrytis.

Stylish and seductive from the outset, already open and expressive with delicate ripe stone fruit, floral touches and minerality but also graceful, pure and lifted. Suave and glossy on the attack with very fine mousse, and a fine-textured mid-palate that hints at the warmth of the vintage underpinned by freshness. Beautifully judged, with hints of honey leading to a polished finish and a touch of crisp grapefruit...simply delicious with huge appeal now but not at the expense of balance.

Complete and harmonious with an irresistible vibrancy and energy.

\$310

“I had taken two finger-bowls of champagne, and the scene had changed before my eyes into something significant, elemental, and profound.”

—F. Scott Fitzgerald, ‘The Great Gatsby’

CHAMPAGNE BÉRÊCHE

Brut Reserve NV

Cépages:

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier

It's been nearly two decades since growers began to dominate the headlines in Champagne. Yet, over that period, surprisingly few growers have managed to separate themselves from the pack—by virtue of their genius or their gift for making Champagne of unique expressiveness. Two that have are the brothers, Raphaël and Vincent Bérêche.

In fact, many authorities feel that Champagne Bérêche et Fils has now taken its place among the region's finest producers, house or grower. Antonio Galloni calls Raphaël and Vincent's Champagnes "among the very best readers will come across," adding that he buys the wines "whenever I see them." John Gilman writes simply that Bérêche is "at the top of its game and producing some of the finest wines in all of Champagne!

Bursting with aromas of orange oil, crisp orchard fruit and fresh bread, it's medium to full-bodied, fleshy and gourmand, with tangy acids and an enveloping, pillowy profile.

(This is almost a gallon of wine!)



\$699 3L Jeroboam

CHAMPAGNE BÉRÊCHE

'Rive Gauche' Brut 2017

Cépage:

Pinot Meunier

On paper, at least, everything about Bérêche is classical. This starts with history, as this is a domaine that was founded just before the U.S. Civil War. It continues with land. They don't farm some obscure corner of Champagne, but in its historic heart, with plots scattered around the Montagne de Reims and the Vallée de la Marne.

Traditional and classical, perhaps, and yet something sets it apart: sheer excellence. Raphaël and Vincent Bérêche's intense focus on high quality farming and precise work in the cellar is exactly the sort of hard work that was too often missing from the pre-grower Grand Marques. And it results in wines that people—no matter how geeky their Champagne tastes—just love.

The nine hectares of Bérêche et Fils estate was founded in 1847, and has been known for creating complex, terroir-driven wines for over 150 years and is farmed biodynamically, manually, and without chemicals by Bérêche. Secondary fermentations are executed under cork, adding a layer of complexity to the wines. The 2017 'Rive Gauche' is a blanc de noirs crafted from 100% Pinot Meunier, creating a chalky, pure wine of elegance and complexity, showing intense flavors of tart red fruits, wet stones, flower petals, and brioche.



\$145



GERBAIS

Extra Brut 'Cuvée de Réserve' NV

Cepages:

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Blanc

Champagne Pierre Gerbais is a fourth generation domaine in the Aube. It is spearheaded today by the young Aurélien Gerbais, a handsome-nerdy-hipster winemaker who is unnervingly self-assured for his age, yet soft-spoken and humble. At Gerbais there are old vines, organic vineyard management, intelligence, respect, passion, relevance, training and drive enough to take this house to the very top of a small band of visionary champagne makers in the Aube.

The quintessential Champagne blend, combining the finesse of chardonnay with the force of pinot noir. Pierre Gerbais style at its most pure. Absolutely tremendous complexity and depth at a fraction of the prices of big-name Champagne houses.

The Cuvée de Réserve non-vintage Brut bottling from the Gerbais family (Pierre's son Pascal, and his grandson, Aurélien Gerbais) is comprised of a blend of fifty percent Pinot Noir, twenty-five percent Pinot Meunier and twenty-five percent Pinot Blanc. The bouquet is a vibrant and complex constellation of apple, tangerine, a touch of fresh nutmeg, Chablis-like flinty chalk, brioche and an exotic touch of lavender in the upper register. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, crisp and laser-like in its focus, with a superb core, elegant mousse, zesty acids and outstanding mineral drive on the long and complex finish.

\$95 750ml bottle

\$48 375ml half bottle

**“Only the truly unimaginative can fail to find a reason for drinking
Champagne.”**

- Oscar Wilde

11 CHAMPAGNE

BOLLINGER

'Special Cuvée – 007 Edition' Brut NV

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

In celebration of over 40 years of partnership as the Official Champagne of 007 and the movie 'No Time To Die,' this limited edition bottle brings together two icons. The signature cuvée of Champagne Bollinger: Special Cuvée and the legendary British secret agent, James Bond.

Bollinger's Special Cuvée champagne is representative of their vineyards. With 60% of the House's vineyards producing Pinot Noir, this grape is the predominate variety in the Special Cuvée blend. Bollinger allow their non-vintage to mature for three years, which is twice as long as required, as they believe that great champagne needs time to develop its full character. Champagne Bollinger are the only Maison to age a proportion of their reserve wines in magnum, at any one time they have around 700,000 reserve wine magnums, representing around a third of their total reserve wine stocks.

A golden color with a beautifully fine mousse. The nose is complex with ripe fruit and spicy aromas. On the palate, rich apple and peach notes burst through. Hints of brioche and fresh walnut linger on the lasting finish to enhance this powerful Special Cuvée.

\$150



PREVOST LA CLOSERIE

Extra Brut 'Les Beguines' NV

Cépage:

Pinot Meunier

Jérôme Prevost and his estate of Champagne La Closerie are part of a small but powerful coalition of tiny producers making intense, terroir-transparent, vinous Champagnes. Rather than follow the traditional Champagne model of blending grapes, vintages, and vineyards to produce a "standardized" product, Jérôme and his fellow "Champagne Renegades" produce terroir-specific bottlings primarily dedicated to one grape and one vintage.

The NV Extra Brut Les Béguines is a wine of immense charm and generosity of spirit. Mingling aromas of walnuts, fenugreek, pear, yellow orchard fruit, licorice, white flowers and buttery pastry with evocations of peach and apricot, it's full-bodied, fleshy and voluptuous, with a broad and textural attack that segues into an ample, enveloping core, concluding with a sapid finish.

Sadly, the world at large is discovering how incredible the Champagnes of Prevost are, and we can never get as much as we want!

\$250



TAITTINGER

*'Comtes de Champagne' Grand Cru
Blanc de Blancs 2007*

Cépage:
Chardonnay

In 1952, the Taittinger Champagne House created the Comtes de Champagne Blanc de Blancs - its most exclusive and premium cuvée - in honor of the Comtes de Champagne. It is made only with Chardonnay grapes from the Grands Crus of the Côte des Blancs region, including the villages of Avize, Cramant, Chouilly, Mesnil-sur-Oger and Oger, which all have a renowned soil quality for this particular variety in the region.

This great 2007 vintage lives up to all expectations as soon as you open the bottle. It is a moment to treasure. It has a fine and delicate nose which combines white blossom and a certain minerality with general overtones of Anjou light pear and golden raisins. Subtle hints of aniseed and smoky flavors follow this suggestion of fruit. The taste is vibrant, with a combination of lemon and saltiness. This is immediately followed by a sensation of complex, yet mellow freshness creating the perfect balance between ripeness and a full-rounded flavor. It is rounded off by a long-lasting, crisp finish with hints of salted butter. cellaring potential.

\$450

**TAITTINGER**

*'Comtes de Champagne' Grand Cru
Blanc de Blancs 2011*

Cépage:
Chardonnay

The 2011 Champagne Blanc de Blancs 'Comte de Champagne' is from all the Grand Crus of the Côte de Blancs, save for Oiry.

2011 was a challenging year in Champagne, yet once again, Taittinger made a lovely Comtes de Champagne. While it is not the powerhouse that some may expect from this bottling, it is lithe, elegant, and showing beautifully at this stage.

With a kiss of toasted and buttered brioche, caramel apple, hazelnuts and a hint of saline, this wine gets more savory as it opens, although it still shows as being fairly youthful. The palate is full, with a fine mousse and a dusty feel of chalk, as well as fresh and pithy citrus.

Mineral driven, bright, energetic, and truly delicious! While there was initially some doubt about how this wine would age, it still has a long life ahead of it.

\$450

13 CHAMPAGNE

TAITTINGER

'Comtes de Champagne Rosé Brut 2007

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Pinot Meunier

The Comtes Rosé is made from 100% Grand Cru grapes and produced only in exceptional years. The Chardonnay grapes come from the prestigious Cote des Blancs, and the Pinot Noir from the Montagne De Reims. Only juice from the first pressing is used in order to ensure the structure and long aging potential that is so essential to this exceptional Champagne.

This Champagne features extraordinarily delicate bubbles and a fresh, highly refined nose with complex aromas of wild strawberries, morello cherries and black currants with hints of fresh almonds and licorice. On the palate, the initial fruitiness quickly intensifies and leads into a rich, structured midpalate and a generous finish that maintains balance and freshness.

The 2007 vintage, per usual, has garnered effusive praise, with Wine Spectator saying: 'This harmonious rosé Champagne offers quiet grace, with a pleasing juiciness to the sleek acidity, framing finely knit flavors of raspberry, peach, brioche and candied pink grapefruit zest. Showing a raw silk-like texture, this caresses the palate through to the fresh, ginger-laced finish.'



\$460

LOUIS ROEDERER

'Cristal' Brut 2013

Cépages:

Pinot Noir, Chardonnay

The 2013 vintage of Cristal from Maison Louis Roederer is the only one in the last two decades to be made from fruit that was harvested in October, as global warming has pushed most picking dates in the Champagne region forward into September. Spring was cool and flowering in 2013 did not occur until the month of July- almost unheard of in recent times! The cépages this year is sixty percent pinot noir and forty percent chardonnay, with one-third of the vins clairs barrel-fermented for this vintage. As always, none of the vins clairs went through malolactic fermentation and the wine was finished with a dosage of eight grams per liter.

The 2013 Cristal is made from an estate within their estate, and sourced from 45 mid-slope, old vine sites on the chalkiest parcels in the Côte des Blancs, Mountain of Reims and Grand Valley of the Marne. It is composed of 60% Pinot Noir and 40% Chardonnay, and like the 2012, is treated to 32% barrel fermentation, mostly in very large oak uprights. It comes from one of the latest harvests in my career in Champagne, which did not start until October.



\$550



PICAMELOT

Brut, NV

Cépages:

Chardonnay, Ugni Blanc

This lovely winery, comprised of nearly 35 acres in the Côte de Beaune and the Côte Chalonnaise, was created by Louis Picamelot in 1926 and taken-over by his grand-son Philippe Chautard in 1987.

In his new winery installed in 2006 in the middle of the old limestone quarry in Rully, he makes beautiful “terroir” or blended crémants, and a few still wines.

The result is a wine that is balanced and floral, showing faint exotic fruits and clean lemon in the nose. Soft bubbles and a light acidity make this wine dangerously easy to quaff on its own. It should pair well with vegetables, including the ever-hard-to-match asparagus. And at nearly a quarter the price of good grower champagne, this is as easy on the wallet as it is to drink!

\$10.50/glass \$35/bottle



ROGER ET CHRISTOPHE MOREUX

Sancerre, 2021

Cépages:

Pinot Noir

The estate of Domaine Roger & Christophe Moreux represents the best in artisanal wine making. Established in Chavignol in 1895, the work of the vineyards has been handed down from father to son for generations. Today the domaine is under the attentive care of Christophe Moreux as his father, Roger, has entered retirement.

Located just a few short minutes from the town of Sancerre, Chavignol is considered one of the great sites of the appellation, and in possession of some of Sancerre’s greatest terroirs. Moreux owns vines in the two top vineyards of Chavignol: Les Monts Damnés and Les Bouffants. Both vineyards produce some of Sancerre’s top wines, Moreux’s perennially among them.

Hints of wild strawberry with fresh peach, mineral and a lively fresh character. Great acidity, with enough stuffing to pair with rich dishes and, of course, aged goat cheeses.

\$59/bottle

15 STILL ROSÉ



CHATEAU SAINT-CYRGUES

Costieres de Nimes 2021

Cépages:

Grenache, Syrah

Located in Saint Gilles, which borders the Camargue region (think wild white ponies and fresh French salt) at the mouth of the Rhone River, Chateau Saint Cyrgues was built on the ruins of the Church of Saint-Cirice de Marge in 1654. This abbey had at one time been part of the Saint Cyrgues priory, where cultivation of vine was part of the monks' daily rituals. Chateau Saint Cyrgues was seized during the French Revolution as clerical property, after which it changed hands many times.

Costières de Nîmes (which loosely translates to 'the slopes of Nimes') sits at the nexus of rocky hills of Provence and the sandy alluvial plains of the Camargues. Many of its areas feature the larger, flat, galets, the signature stones of Chateauneuf du Pape.

Light-bodied and fresh – bursting with notes of spring-time flowers, wild cherry, and raspberry. Simply delicious!

\$8.00/glass

\$29/bottle



PEYRASSOL

'La Croix,' Provence 2021

Cépages:

Cinsault, Grenache, Syrah, Carignan

The Commanderie de Peyrassol has been the benchmark for Provence rosé for decades. The Commanderie de Peyrassol was founded by the Knights Templar in the 13th century. Grapes have been cultivated and wine has been made on this historic property ever since. It's likely that even centuries ago a simple form of rose with light skin contact was produced here and was consumed by pilgrims on their way to the Holy Land. Today of course Peyrassol has perfected rosé production as an art form, taking these pure pink beauties to near perfection. The property sits on the Massif des Maures north of St Tropez. Up to 10 different grape varieties are farmed organically on these terraced slopes, but it's Grenache and Cinsault that form the core of this gorgeous rosé.

Beautiful pale pink in color, with distinct bluish hues. This expressive blend opens immediately with notes of small red fruits carried on a savory undertone of garrigue. There is a refreshing touch of greenness on the palate which gives this fresh, lively wine its truly thirst-quenching character.

\$45

ALSACE – A REGION UNLIKE ANY OTHER

The wines from Alsace are some of the most delicious in France, yet they are also the most misunderstood. Part of the reason for the confusion, is that this part of France was in the past actually a part of Germany. This is reflected in the names of many of the producers (Deiss in particular is very Germanic), the shapes of the bottles and the way the wines are labeled.

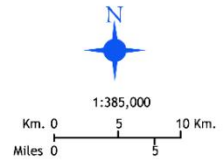
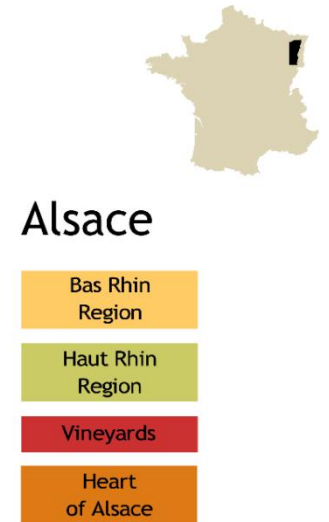
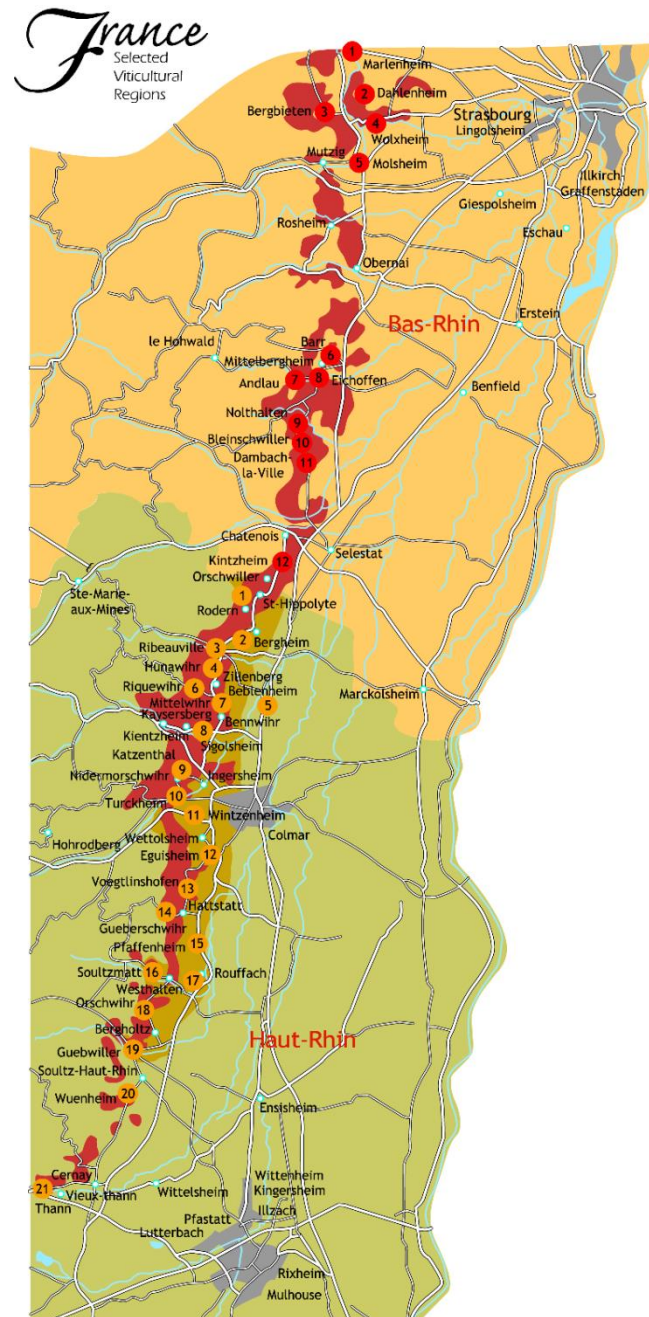
In 1871, Alsace was annexed to the new German Empire following its victory in the Franco-Prussian War. The occupation lasted until 1918 when, after Germany's defeat in the First World War, the region was ceded to France under the Treaty of Versailles. The region was then occupied once by Germany during the Second World War. This influence still shows today in a language known as Alsatian, a language spoken by nearly half the population!

The region lies just to the East of the Vogues Mountains, and being in the rain shadow means the region is warmer and drier than much of the rest of France. The white wines from this region tend to have a richness and an opulence not found in the wines of neighboring Germany.

The wines in Alsace are also typically labeled by the grape varietal, which is unusual in France. In this sense, they are easier to understand than a region such as the Loire Valley, where only the name of the region is listed, and one must know what the grapes are in the bottle (we try to make that a little easier in this wine list by telling you the name of the grapes in each wine).

This wines are wonderful with really rich foods. Pâté is a particularly good partner for the wines of Alsace.

S'gilt!



17 ALSACE



DOMAINE PFISTER

2016

Cépage:
Pinot Gris

Domaine Pfister began life in 1780 during our Revolutionary War. That seems a long time ago, until you learn that Pfister's village of Dahlenheim was favorably noted for wine production in the distant year of 884. Mélanie Pfister is one of the upcoming stars in Alsace, and she 'officially' took over from her father with the 2006 vintage, but dad is far from retiring. He very proudly has got his daughter's back, and works the vines as hard as he ever did.

Almost tropical overtones on the nose announce ample pure fruit. Russet pear has both a touch of fresh Amalfi lemon and luscious honey. Yet the palate is slender, taut and dry. A lovely, dry evocation of the varietal richness of Pinot Gris, framed on very light feet with elegance and poise.

Totally appetizing.

\$62



PIERRE SPARR

Alsace 'One' 2020

Cépages:
Muscat, Riesling, Pinot Gris

Alsace has been celebrated for its lovely, dry white wines for centuries, but it has gained a reputation for enticing traditional method sparkling wines in recent years. In the heart of Alsace's finest district, the Haut-Rhin, Maison Pierre Sparr follows a 300-year-old tradition of winemaking that began during the reign of King Louis XIV. The devotion to the land, the attention to the smallest detail and the uncompromising quest for excellence is in every bottle bearing the Sparr family crest.

On the nose first of all fresh and mineral, light notes of fruity lychee, paired with exotic flavors. The palate follows with fresh fruit flavors, a dynamic acidity plays around the tongue, balanced with plenty of extract and a pleasantly light, racy body. The long spicy finish has a fancy touch of acidity.

This is a wonderful entry into the world of Alsace wines!

\$12.50/glass

\$41/bottle

DOMAINE OSTERTAG*'Les Jardins' 2020***Cépage:**
Riesling

To call André Ostertag a revolutionary winemaker is to tell just half the story. He is a pioneer, certainly, but also an ardent environmentalist (as demonstrated in both his wine and his sculpture, another passion). After training in Burgundy, André returned to the family domaine in Alsace with renewed zeal: he lowered yields considerably and introduced viticultural and vinification techniques from other regions to his own home ground.

Beautiful floral aromatics lead the experience with this wine. Light apple, lemon and mineral aromas can also be found. The palate is perfectly balanced and dry with apple, lemon and mineral flavors. The acidity is spot on. The finish is long and fantastic, leaving tart apple and lemon flavors lingering on the palate. This is a fantastic Riesling!

**\$59****DOMAINE OSTERTAG***'Les Jardins' 2020***Cépage:**
Pinot Blanc

André Ostertag is clearly one of the most dynamic producers in Alsace today, and certainly one of the highest rated. André is passionate and free-thinking, and his wines reflect this. Biodynamism was extended to 100% of the domaine in 1998, precluding any use of herbicides, chemical fertilizers and insecticides. All viticultural work is done manually, including harvest. In the cellar, press cycles are long and gentle, fermentations are long and conducted without artificial yeasts, and wines are left on their lees.

Alsace, France. The result is an uncommonly full-bodied and structured Pinot Blanc - yet dry. It exudes fresh fruity aromas of fresh apples, yellow peaches and nectarine. A hint of hazelnut comes out with air. Deep but tense with a clear mineral feel and delicate creaminess.

**\$59**



DOMAINE OSTERTAG

'Vieilles Vignes' 2020

Cépage:
Sylvaner

There is poetry to Ostertag's practices. He looks for the nuance of terroir rather than the typicality of a grape varietal.

This wine is biodynamic, which you could say goes several steps beyond organic in terms of being in tune with nature. Beautiful aroma, silky mouthfeel, fresh with old-vine weight, interesting, and downright delicious.

A very beautiful, atypical Sylvaner. We love it's balance and dashing energy. From vines agreed aged between 50 -75 years old, planted on a dozen plots of the town of Efig, with very varied soils. After aging for almost a year in vats, this Sylvaner displays a profile that is both fresh and fleshy. The bouquet is pure and expressive, with notes of white flowers, chervil, pear and white peach, complemented by a more exotic touch reminiscent of grapefruit. The imprint of the soil brings here a fine salinity and a delicate bitterness, evoking fresh almonds and citrus skins.

\$59



DOMAINE ERNEST BURN

'Clos St-Imer' Grand Cru 2010

Cépage:
Pinot Gris

Alsace Pinot Gris is truly special, with aromas that are unlike any other wine in the world. We leapt at the chance to add this wine to our list, and wish we had bought more!

Very intense dried apricot and canned peach aromas are intensified by spicy botrytis. Creamy on entry, then sweet and suave in the middle, showing precise flavors of orange oil, poached pear, cinnamon apple pie and vanilla bean.

Looks, smells and tastes like a sweet wine (which it is) but the almost mind-blowing acidity here keeps this wine vibrant on the suave, rich, very long finish, which tastes drier than we would have expected from the amount of residual sugars.

Pair this with something rich, and enjoy the decadence!

\$85

ALBERT BOXLER

'Brand' Grand Cru 2016

Cépage:

Gewurztraminer



Jean Boxler, many generations removed from his ancestor of the same name that moved here from Switzerland in 1673, currently rules the roost at this humble yet incredibly exciting domaine. Intense and serious about his land, his craft, and his wine, Jean is the genius behind what are some of the finest white wines in Alsace.

The family's holdings are centered around the ancient village of Niedermorschwihr in the Haut-Rhin, dominated by the imposing granite hillside *grand cru*, Sommerberg. Jean vinifies micro-parcels within this *cru* separately, de-classifying some into his Réserve wines and producing multiple bottlings of Sommerberg from the different *lieux-dits* depending on the vintage.

Brand is an imposing grand cru, standing steep and proud above the town of Turckheim, exposed due south and planted in pure granite. Hot stone is a theme in this wine. This is Boxler's most powerful Riesling—deeply flavored, colored, and structured, built to age. These vines work hard to make a living, and the intensity of that struggle shines through magnanimously.

\$150**ALBERT BOXLER**

'Reserve' 2018

Cépage:

Gewurztraminer



Boxler is known for his impeccable mastery of the Gewurztraminer variety and this cuvée is a perfect illustration of such work. Well-integrated flavors of mango, white peach, lychee, and ginger dominate this unctuous yet refreshing palate.

The Hill of Sommerberg ends essentially at Jean Boxler's house, which makes it easy for him to practically live in the vineyards!

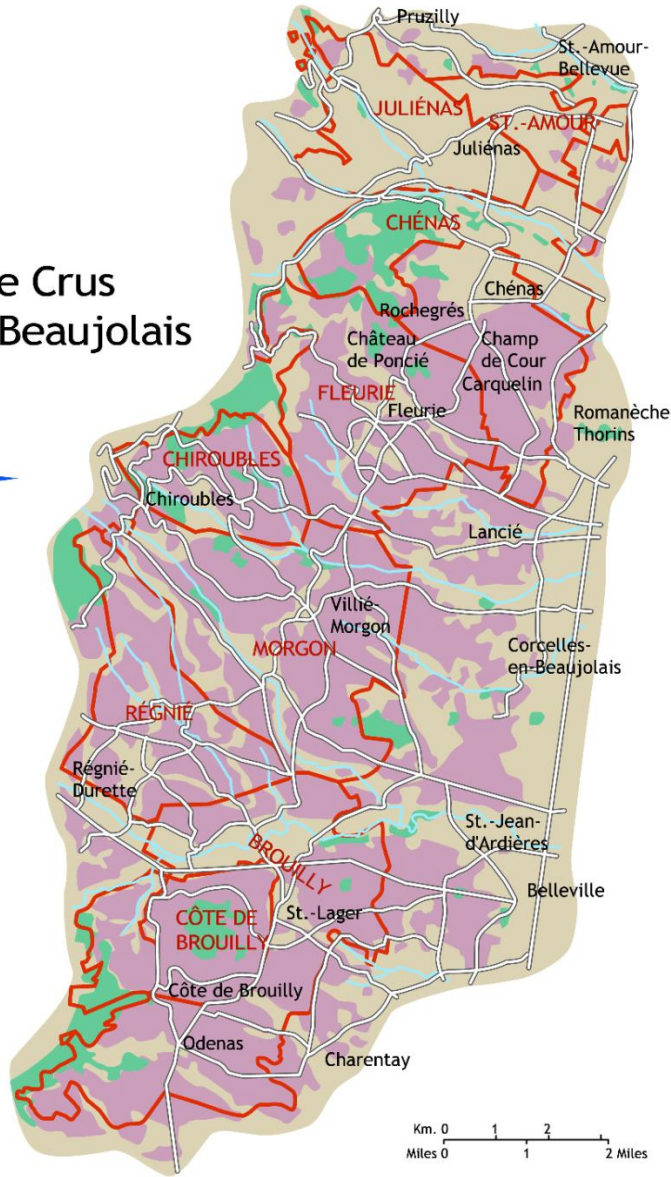
After harvest, the wines are vinified and aged in old foudres in a small cellar underneath the family home until bottling. Not much has changed over the centuries; not much has needed to. Tasting through the entire range of Boxler's wines is ample proof of the fact that Alsace, along with Burgundy, is the source of the world's most complex, exciting white wines, and will probably always be.

Ripe and juicy nectarine and lychee fruit is accented by a lovely range of apple blossom, grated ginger and smoky mineral notes in this mouthwatering, medium-bodied white. Long and expressive on the finish. Pair with Pates and rich foods.

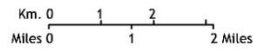
\$99



The Crus of Beaujolais



Vineyards
Woods
Limits of Grands Crus



CHATEAU DE JARNIOUX*Beaujolais 2021***Cépage:**

Gamay



Located at the southernmost tip of wine-producing Burgundy, the Beaujolais is a region that cannot be ignored. This is an impressive terroir and the birthplace of the Gamay grape, which fully expresses itself here more than anywhere else. Jarnioux and its hilly landscapes offer gorgeous panoramas of the Saône valley. Here, the vines are planted in calcareous clay soil (sedimentary in origin and therefore comparable to the soil profiles found in Burgundy). In this exceptional region, where it is warmer than in the rest of Burgundy, both the soil and the people working it contribute to the highly exceptional Gamay wines produced here, thereby affirming a true Beaujolais terroir.

Delectable, fresh, typical nose with notes of strawberry and candy. Clean, red-fruited Beaujolais with clarity to its currant and red-berry flavor. It's simple and lasting, fresh and fun. The 2021 vintage is a lighter brighter than the 2020's warm weather bottling, and all the better for it.

This is one of our favorite wines to enjoy on the patio, by itself, or with our Pate!

\$12.00/glass**\$39/bottle**



JEAN-MARC BURGAUD
Beaujolais-Villages
'Les Vignes des Lantignié' 2021

Cépage:
Gamay

The Beaujolais Village from Burgaud comes from Lantignié at Castle Thulon, a village famous for its hills and its granite. Winemaking, farming and bottling take place in the cellars of Thulon (from the 13th century) from Jean Marc's great-aunt Mrs. Ham. Beaujolais Villages, "Les Vignes de Thulon" is an exclusive domain with the average age of vines around 50 years old.

To develop a great wine, Burgaud believes the winemaker must know their terroirs, work to get the best possible grapes, and this harmony can arise from large bottles.

And so, how does it taste? Like gamay should from Beaujolais. It's light to mid weight with a beautiful nose of rose petal. It's clean, concentrated, tart and floral with predominant flavors of berries and a stray stone fruit or two. This is absolutely beautiful!

\$36



JEAN-MARC BURGAUD
Beaujolais Morgon Côte du Py 2021

Cépage:
Gamay

Jean-Marc Burgaud is a top Beaujolais grower, claimed by many to be the best producer in Morgon. He comes from a family of winemakers, and his own career in the industry began in 1989 after he completed a diploma in oenology.

Burgaud's aim is always to illustrate his passion for winemaking in the most important place of all: the glass. Perhaps most well-regarded is his Morgon, the meatily-structured Cote du Py.

The aromas of the Côte de Py are very smoky, with rich blackberry and black cherry fruit, iron, stones and the suggestion of coffee. Medium body and acidity are combined with a substantial amount of tannin. There is a great deal of blackberry and black cherry, smoke, mineral, and hints of tar and herbs. There is a liveliness and multi-faceted aspect to the flavors that is very appealing.

If you are not already a fan of Cru Beaujolais, this may be the wine will make to believer out of you. Brilliant!

\$45



JEAN-MARC BURGAUD

Beaujolais Morgon Côte du Py 'James' 2019

Cépage:
Gamay

One of our favorite surprises were the single-parcel wines from the Burgaud – Jean-Marc bottles 2 single parcel wines from the Cote du Py, a stony hill in Morgon, and the two wines are so different that it is difficult to believe they are from the same area, much less the same producer! James is his parcel on the South-facing slope of the hill.

This is a big wine in 2019, with Deep strawberry aromas with mineral notes of cool blue stones. Gorgeous fruit supported by sneaky light tannins and surprising complexity. This Beaujolais always needs some time to open up or just sit in the cellar for a few years.

This is simply stunning – we wish we could have bought more :/

\$75



25 BEAUJOLAIS

JEAN-MARC BURGAUD

Beaujolais Morgon Côte du Py
'Javernieres' 2019

Cépage:
Gamay

Located merely a kilometer away, and further down on the slope of the Cote du Py, this wine is so different from the 'James' bottling that it is difficult to believe they are from the same area, much less the same producer!

Scents of violets and intensely-ripe blackberry and elderberry, walnut oil, and a hint of game haunt the nose. Palate-staining intensity and seductive richness of fruit - a velvet-like texture I can't recall from any previous Beaujolais - are allied with similarly super-saturating and intriguing stony and saline minerality as well as upwelling inner-mouth floral persistence. Terrific energy and lip-smacking sheer juiciness cap all of this richness and mineral intrigue in a finish that leaves you panting for the next sip.

One has to attend carefully to realize how much fine-grained tannin underlies this phenomenal Morgon, which should be decanted for maximum enjoyment. We would highly recommend trying both the 'James' and the 'Javernieres' bottles side-by-side for a rare and truly special treat.

\$68



LAURENT PERRACHON

Beaujolais Moulin A Vent
'Terres Roses' 2020

Cépage:
Gamay

With each printing of our wine list, we find that we have somehow added more Cru Beaujolais. There is perhaps no finer value on the wine list than the Gamays from this region that sits just south of Burgundy's Cote'dOr. These wines drink beautifully young, are wonderful with food, and in some cases have the potential to age for decades.

Laurent Perrachon is an old winery that is undergoing quite the renaissance; the family can trace their roots in the wine business back to 1601! But it is the current winemaker, Laurent, that has put Perrachon on the map.

The Moulin à Vent is often called the "Seigneur des Beaujolais" (lord of Beaujolais). As with all great Beaujolais vineyards, the soil is heavy in granite, and the vines for this wine average 50 years of age.

There is lovely structure here, both in tannins and acidity, but the dark fruit is ripe and lush. We'd definitely pair this with pate, duck and richer dishes on our menu. What a wine.

\$39



BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU, BEAUJOLAIS, BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGE & CRU BEAUJOLAIS EXPLAINED

Many people who are familiar with Beaujolais know it primarily from the festive **Beaujolais-Nouveau** bottles that release on the third Thursday of each November. While fun quaffers, for the most part these are not wines meant for contemplation; they are 'wines of the moment' to celebrate the end of the year's harvest.

Wines labeled as '**Beaujolais**' are the wines that can come from anywhere in the Beaujolais region. The reds must all be made of Gamay, but there is some Chardonnay grown in the region for white wines.

Beaujolais-Villages wines are step above basic Beaujolais in terms of complexity, and are made in villages that produce better quality grapes.

At the top of the pyramid lie the **Cru Beaujolais**. These are wines made from within the 10 best growing regions in Beaujolais: Brouilly, Chenas, Chiroubles, Cote de Brouilly, Fleurie, Julienas, Morgon, Moulin-a-Vent, Régnié and St Amour.

Cru Beaujolais is, in our opinion, one of the great values of the world. The wines offer tremendous pleasure when young, pair wonderfully with a wide variety of foods, and can age beautifully. The best of them can resemble top Burgundies with some age!



LUCIEN LE MOINE

Morgon Beaujolais 2019

Cépage:
Gamay

Is this the most limited wine that Mounir Saouma makes? Certainly these magnums of Morgon from Lucien LeMoine were the first we had not only seen, but had even heard of!

In fact, there are only 2 Magnums came to Missouri – and we bought them both. The owner of the importer (Pinnacle Imports), Bill Kniep, intended to buy these for his own personal cellar, but fortunately (for us, not for him), he forgot the wine was in his warehouse, and we swooped in and bought it!

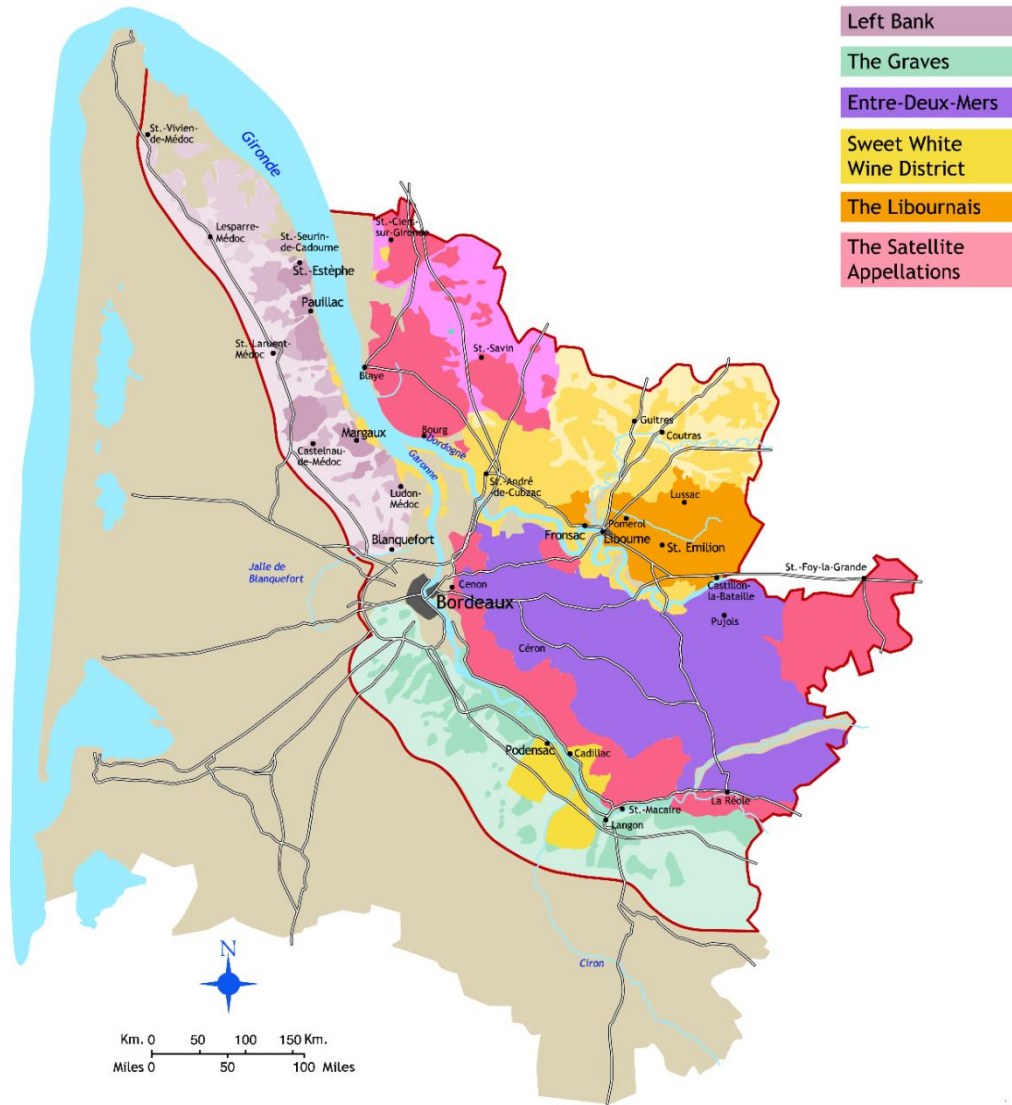
There is a belief that in the distant past, great Beaujolais could surpass even the finest Burgundies with age; Mounir treats this wine in the same way that he treats his Pinot Noirs from Beaujolais' northerly neighbors. This is truly special, and rare.

Morgon is perhaps our favorite of the Beaujolais Crus, and if there is a better producer than LeMoine...well, we'd certainly like to try their wines, too!

\$490 1500ML (Magnum)

France
Selected
Viticultural
Regions

Bordeaux



CLOS DES LUNES*Pessac-Léognan 2020***Cépages:**

Sémillon, Sauvignon Blanc

Founded by Olivier Bernard, the owner of Domaine e Chevalier in Pessac-Leognan and Chateau Guiraud in Sauternes, the property previously made undistinguished, sweet wines under the name of Chateau Haut Caplane. That is no longer the case, now that Olivier Bernard and his son, Hugo Bernard began turning things around at Clos des Lunes. Today, Hugo Bernard is essentially managing Clos des Lunes.

The Clos des Lunes has loads of rich, sweet, pomelos, lemon peel, and crisp green apple, with a touch of honeysuckle. The palate of vibrant, fresh and refreshing, with a real crisp finish.

The wine was made from a blend of 65% Semillon and 35% Sauvignon Blanc.

**\$45****CHÂTEAU LAMOTHE DE HAUX***Bordeaux 2021***Cépages:**

Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, Muscadelle

Château Lamothe's foundations date back to the 16th century. Its renovation in the 19th century transformed the building into a charming residence whose facade is pictured on the label. Located in the commune of Haux, on top of a clay-limestone slope in the heart of the Bordeaux wine country, this estate has been devoted to winegrowing from the very beginning, and has belonged to the same family for 4 generations (as of 1956).

This is as complex as a Pessac-Leognan at half the price. The winemaking is traditional. It is aged on the lees for about 3 weeks, which accounts for its round, smooth, and remarkably fruity flavor. It is ideal as an aperitif, or with fish, seafood (a must with oysters), and cheese.

The 2021 Lamothe has a light honeysuckle and orange zest-scented nose that needs aeration to really coalesce. The palate is viscous on the entry and spicy on the back palate and boasts floral aromas and bright citrus fruit flavors. The palate is round and fresh, with a long finish.

**\$10.00/glass \$37/bottle**

29 BORDEAUX SUPERIEUR

BORDEAUX VS. BORDEAUX SUPÉRIEUR WINES

Bordeaux is among the oldest wine producing regions of the world, with over 12,000 producers. The region itself has over 25 different appellations, most referring to a specific and geographically defined area that offers unique soils, microclimate and sun exposure. However there are two appellations that are often confusing for the average consumer and they are "Bordeaux" and "Bordeaux Supérieur". These are not specific appellations like the Cotes de Bourg, or St. Emilion, but appellations that encompass the entire region.

If a producer grows grapes anywhere within the Bordeaux wine region, and then produces wine from those grapes, the wine can be labelled as Bordeaux. This includes *negociants* (wine brokers) and anyone who purchases grapes and/or finished wines and bottles them. Thus, the range of production can be enormous from a bottling of 5000 to 500,000 bottles, and quality ranging from basic industrially produced wines to good basic wine offering good value.

Look more for Bordeaux wines displaying the appellation "Bordeaux Supérieur". Why you ask? What is the difference? Is the wine actually superior to those labelled merely "Bordeaux" and does it warrant the few dollars more in price? The short and simple answer is yes.

Wines offered for consideration for the Bordeaux Supérieur appellation are judged by a juried panel from submitted samples and must meet the same criteria as "Bordeaux" wines, and additionally show superb ripeness (meaning that the wine must reach 12% alcohol by volume from entirely natural grape sugars; inferior or less ripe grapes require added sugar to reach 12%) in addition to a quality level that would merit aging for a number of years, to warrant the granting of this appellation.



CHATEAU FLOREAL LAGUENS

Bordeaux Supérieur, 2020

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

Built in the early 19th century, this imposing building made of honeycoloured stone is the heart of a magnificent wine estate located near the city of Bordeaux. Situated in the Bordeaux Supérieur appellation, in a place named 'Lafitte', the estate dates back to the late 18th century. Until the 1980s, it was called simply... Château Lafitte, and belonged to Mr Floréal-Laguens, a man with a strong personality known far and wide. After many trials and tribulations opposing the estate and the famous chateau of (nearly) the same name, the name 'Lafitte' was no longer allowed, and the wine is now sold as Château Floréal-Laguens. '

Currently belonging to the Bonhur family, Château Floréal-Laguens continues to express the best of its outstanding terroir.

This ripe, balanced wine offers layers of rich blackberry fruits. Its structure and acidity are young but promise great things as they develop.

\$11.00/glass

\$39/bottle



CHÂTEAU MAYNE-VIEIL

Fronsac 'Cuvée Alienor' 2018

Cépage:
Merlot

Chateau Mayne Vieil is a single vineyard (47 hectares) in Fronsac on a hill of clay loam with a moderate slope at an altitude of nearly 40 meters. The vineyard is planted with 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc. The village of Fronsac lies due north of Pomerol about 15 minutes from the famous chateaus of Le Pin and Cheval Blanc.

Château Mayne-Vieil Cuvée Alienor is a selection of old Merlot vines from a single parcel on the estate. This is the luxury cuvée from vineyards in the Seze family, which has owned Cahteau Mayne-Vieil since 1918.

With its perfumed fruits and firm tannins, it is serious as well as sumptuous. It has weight and a dry texture that will soften into the blackberry fruits and generous structure.

This is a fantastic introduction to Bordeaux!

\$39



CHATEAU PUYGUERAUD

Francs – Côtes de Bordeaux 2019

Cépages:
Merlot, Cabernet Franc

The Francs-Côtes-de-Bordeaux appellation is a subregion of Bordeaux, located on the right bank of the Dordogne river in southwest France. It is one of the smallest regions in Bordeaux but has its own AOC designation since 2009.

Chateau Puygueraud was purchased by George Thienpont in 1946. The Thienpont family was already quite successful in Bordeaux by those days, as they were popular negociants and they owned Chateau Vieux Chateau Certan in Pomerol as well as Chateau Troplong Mondot in St. Emilion at one point as well!

The 49-hectare vineyard of Chateau Puygueraud is planted to 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 5% Malbec, with the vines averaging 30 years of age.

An array of fresh dark and blue-fruit aromas, together with hints of baking spices, chocolate and crushed rocks. Full-bodied and compact with firm, polished tannins and delicious, succulent fruit. We'd decant this one, but it is really lovely right out of the bottle, if you do not want to wait. This is brilliant stuff, the essence of Bordeaux.

\$58

CHÂTEAU PIERREFITTE

Lalande-de-Pomerol 2018

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc,
Cabernet Sauvignon

The wine represents about 10% of the production of Château Perron, one of the oldest properties in the commune of Néac and is 80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Cabernet Franc.

The result is a wine with a rich aroma of red fruits, a nice spicy tone and a very rich taste of berry fruit. The tannins in the finish are juicy and ripe.

This wine goes well with hearty dishes of red meats, game and lamb, but also spicy cheeses.



\$49

CHATEAU L'EVANGILE

Pomerol 2008

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc

Château L'Evangile's wines are described in an old edition of "Grand Vins de Bordeaux", as "full-bodied and elegant, with incomparable finesse." Some things never change!

Chateau L'Evangile is one of the oldest properties in Pomerol. In fact, Chateau L'Evangile has a long history dating all the way back to 1741. By 1900, Chateau L'Evangile was widely considered the third-best wine in all of Pomerol, just behind Vieux Chateau Certan and Petrus.

In the 1990s, Evangile was purchased by the owners of the famous Chateau Lafite-Rothschild estate, who have invested vigorously in both the vineyards and the winery.

2008 was a vintage that initially seemed liked it was going to be a disaster. The year started cool and rainy, and budbreak was problematic. However, the rest of the year was perfect, and the resulting wines, though small in quantity, were of fantastic quality.

The dense purple-colored 2008 l'Evangile exhibits a floral nose of sweet mulberries, black currants, and black cherries, a full-bodied, lush texture, silky tannins, and an exceptionally fine finish.



\$490

CHATEAU LA FLEUR-PETRUS*Pomerol 2019***Cépages:**

Merlot, Cabernet Franc

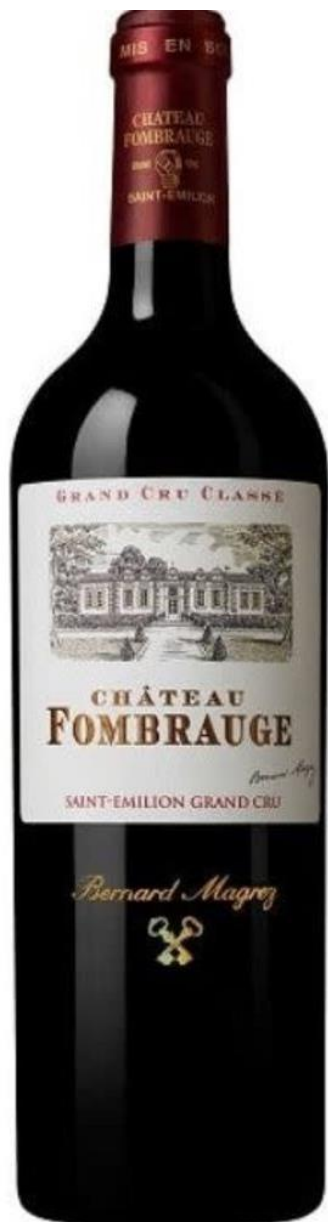
Château La Fleur-Pétrus is one of the most renowned vineyards of Pomerol. This historic estate, situated exclusively on the plateau, was named in the 18th century for its position across the localities 'Petrus' and 'La Fleur'.

The personality of Château La Fleur-Pétrus lies in the careful association of the famous gravel and clay terroirs of the plateau of Pomerol. The vineyard, located at 33 to 38 meters above sea level, draws its identity from the nuances of soil and elevation of each parcel. Those parcels which are dominated by gravel tend to yield wines of great elegance, while those dominated by clay are distinctly velvety, dense, and structured.

The 2019 Château La Fleur-Pétrus is a stunning example of what makes a great Pomerol – richness without weight, incredible elegance, complexity, and length, all of which it has in abundance. Giving up darker, powerful aromatics of blackcurrants, darker cherries, tobacco, chocolate, and just hints of spring flowers, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a layered, concentrated, incredibly sexy mouthfeel, perfect tannins, and a great finish.

It's one of the most opulent, seamless, impressive wines in the vintage.

**\$640**



CHÂTEAU FOMBRAUGE

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 2018

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec

Chateau Fombrauge is a Grand Cru produced in the Saint-Emilion appellation. This red wine is planted on a vineyard of 58 hectares. The average vine planted is 36 years old. The vines are planted on clay, limestone and sandstone. The wine is aged for 18 months in three different ways. 45% of the yield is aged in new barrels, 45% in used barrels, and 10% in concrete vats.

Leafy herbs, black fruits, and damp earth notes all emerge from the 2016 Château Fombrauge, which is 89% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Malbec aged 18 months in 45% new oak. Falling under the Bernard Magrez umbrella, it's a totally charming, forward, medium to full-bodied 2016 that has notable complexity, good mid-palate depth, no hard edges, and loads of character.

\$110



CHATEAU FLEUR CARDINALE

'BOIS CARDINALE'

Saint-Emilion Grand Cru Classe 20126

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

At the beginning of the 19th century, traces of vines and winemaking facilities already existed, in the origins of the Château Cardinale. The place really began to function in 1920 under the name of "Clos Bel-Air". In 1975, Jean-Louis Obissier, a great lover of racehorses, became the new owner of the vineyard. On the death of his two best riders, Fleur and Cardinal, he decided to rename the property in their honor: the Château became Fleur Cardinale. In 2001, Dominique Decoster, owner - among others - of the Haviland company in Limoges, sold all his porcelain businesses and bought the Château with his wife Florence in order to settle there and give his wines the excellence they deserve

Bois Cardinale is a second wine from Chateau Fleur Cardinale. The wines from this estate are always round and generous, and the 2012 Bois Cardinale is no exception. This is drinking beautifully right now.

\$55

CHÂTEAU ANGELUS*Saint-Émilion Premier Grand Cru Classé A 2016***Cépages:**

Merlot, Cabernet Franc



Chateau Angelus has one of the longest histories in the St. Emilion appellation. The de Bouard family has an even longer history in the region. In fact, the de Bouard family has been in Bordeaux for more than 700 years. They arrived in St. Emilion in 1782.

Chateau Angelus takes its name from a common, everyday event. On a daily basis, the people working their vineyards heard sounds of bells from three local churches. That sound inspired the now famous name of the chateau as well as the logo and the sculpture of the logo that appears in the backyard of the property. The estate has old vines dating all the way back to 1918. While the oldest vines are Merlot, the estate has 10 hectares of Cabernet Franc that are more than 60 years of age.

Subtle and profound aromas of blackberries, wet earth and sweet tobacco. Hints of spice, too. Full-bodied and so deep. It's incredibly vertical and long. Just like looking down a well. Firm and powerful tannins, yet polished and balanced. Goes on for minutes. One of the greatest ever.

\$1200**CHÂTEAU ANGELUS
'LE CARILLON'***Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 2018***Cépages:**

Merlot, Cabernet Franc



This is a really together second wine of Chateau Angéus with a tight and focused center palate of blackberries and hints of chocolate and hazelnuts. Carillon is a blend of fruit from three sources: 7 hectares around the château, 5 hectares closer to Cheval Blanc and 3 hectares in the Saint Christophe des Bardes sector.

The 2018 Le Carillon d'Angéus is laced with striking floral/savory aromatics and brisk saline notes that complement a core of bright red-toned fruit. Pliant and supple, with notable purity and class, the 2018 is gorgeous today and benefits from an extra touch of Franc that did not go into the Grand Vin. It is especially fine in 2018 and could very well turn out to be an overachiever.

\$285

CHATEAU PONTET-FUMET

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 2015

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

The Bardet family have been growing grapes and making wine in Saint-Émilion since 1704. In the 19th century, they bought Château Pontet-Fumet, a 14-hectare vineyard with 35-year-old vines. Roger Bardet produced the first vintage of estate bottled Château Pontet-Fumet in 1962.

The Château Pontet-Fumet is located near the village of Vignonet in the well-known wine-growing region of Saint-Émilion. It is one of the outstanding Grand Crus in Saint-Émilion, where the soils of the vineyards are characterized by sandy gravel soils.

Bringing out the richness of this vintage and its generous fruit, this wine is dense and packed with succulent black fruits. Crisp acidity adds to the fruitiness of the wine, while also underlining the firm structure, which is beginning to mellow beautifully.



\$65

CHATEAU GRAND-PONTET

Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 2018

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

Chateau Grand Pontet was purchased by the Becot family in 1980 from the Barton and Guestier families. If the Becot family name sounds familiar that is because they also own the well-known Right Bank estate, Chateau Beau-Sejour Becot, as well as La Gomerie in St. Emilion and Joanin Becot in Cotes de Castillon.

The 19-hectare vineyard of Chateau Grand Pontet is planted to 70% Merlot, 17.5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Located right off the main road that runs in and out of the Saint Emilion village, the vineyard is planted in 1 large block of vines. The terroir is thin clay and sand over limestone soils.

The nose is fruity, gourmand, racy, well-built, finely tight and offers density, a small concentration as well as a fine richness. It reveals notes of Boysen berry, blueberry, small notes of cassis associated with small touches of small crushed red fruits, lily, violet as well as fine hints of nutmeg, Sichuan pepper and discreet hints of rose/vanilla.



\$79

CHÂTEAU FIGEAC*St Emilion Premier Grand Cru Classé 2010***Cépages:**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc

The 2010 vintage is one of the best in recent history, and the wines are entering a beautiful phase right now. The 2010 Figeac is a blend of 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Cabernet Franc and 30% Merlot.

Château Figeac is one of the leading St. Emilion estates and its wine, with its high Cabernet content, has often been described as the most Médoc-like in St-Emilion. It is located in the north-west of the appellation with its vineyards adjoining those of Cheval Blanc. Its 40 hectares of vineyards (Cabernet Sauvignon 35%, Merlot 30%, Cabernet Franc 35%) lie on a deep, Médoc-like gravel topsoil ('Graves') over a flinty, iron-rich subsoil.

'The 2010 Figeac has a youthful and exuberant bouquet with black cherries, boysenberry, cassis and violets that soar from the glass. There is no stopping the aromatics here. The palate is rich and sensual on the entry with precocious red fruit laced with blood orange and cedar. It firms up a little towards the structured finish that exerts fine grip and there is real persistence in evidence. This is a very classy 2010 Right Bank.' - *Vinous Media*

\$650**CHÂTEAU FIGEAC***St Emilion Premier Grand Cru Classé 2015***Cépages:**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc

Figeac is a famous property, and a historic one at that! Chateau Figeac is not an old Bordeaux vineyard. Figeac is an ancient Bordeaux vineyard! In fact, the genesis of the estate can be dated as far back as the second century during the ancient Gallo-Roman period. At that time, the owner of the property, Figeacus gave his name to the villa he built in the same location. Wine reviewers loved this wine, and we are confident that you will, too.

'A hold onto your hat wine, the 2015 Château Figeac is pure perfection and one of the wines of this terrific vintage. A blend of 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot and 28% Cabernet Franc, its deep purple color is followed by a huge nose of crème de cassis, black raspberries, smoked earth, and graphite. This is followed by a full-bodied, opulent and incredibly concentrated Saint-Emilion that has everything in the right places, no hard edges, thrilling purity of fruit, and a great, great finish. This is one of those rare gems that carries huge intensity and richness, yet still glides across the palate with no sense of weight or heaviness. Winemaker Frédéric Faye thinks the 2016 is even better but that certainly isn't stopping me from giving this crazy good wine a triple digit score. Everyone owes it to themselves to try and taste this wine at least once!' - *Jeb Dunnuck*

\$542

37 LEFT BANK—SAINT JULIEN

CHÂTEAU GLORIA

Saint-Julien 2010

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc,
Petit Verdot.

While many Bordeaux Chateaux have long histories in the region, that is not the case with Chateau Gloria. The creator of Chateau Gloria, Henri Martin was born in 1903. His birth took place at a neighboring St. Julien estate, Gruaud Larose. Henri Martin was born on the property, destined for a life in wine!

In 1942, Henri Martin purchased 6 hectares of vines located in the Left Bank in the St. Julien appellation. The vines were previously the property of Chateau Beychevelle. Henri Martin made the purchase on the advice of his friend, Jean-Charles Cazes, the father of Jean Michel Cazes of Chateau Lynch Bages. That early purchase eventually grew into Chateau Gloria. It took time, but eventually they were able to assemble the land for Chateau Gloria.

Dark red black color with a hint of haze. The nose is very developed with smoky, earthy, cocoa and meaty notes. In the mouth good acid and lots of tannin that leads to a soft finish.

\$180



CHÂTEAU GLORIA

Saint-Julien 2015

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc,
Petit Verdot

Gloria is fast becoming one of the most exciting insider wines of the entire Bordeaux region, and that rare species of a non-classified St-Julien.

The invests made at Chateau Gloria have yield excellent results, and the wines have continued to get better and better.

This is intense and pure, deeply colored with terrific cassis and blackberry fruits as well as ample leafy herbs and sappy flower notes, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, has polished, elegant tannins, and a great finish. It's a juicy, fruit-forward effort with good concentration and lots of class.

The blend is currently 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, and the balance Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc.

The 2015 vintage is really starting to come into its own, although we'd still recommend decanting.

\$122

CHATEAU GLORIA 'ESPRIT DE GLORIA'

Saint-Julien 2018

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot,
Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot



Chateau Gloria is fairly unique among the major appellations on the left bank of Bordeaux. The estate was only pieced together in the 1970s so there is no 1855 classification that the estate can rest its hat on. Instead, Chateau Gloria has to prove its quality and value year after year with exceptional wine. This estate regularly produces wine worthy of mention among the very best producers of Saint Julien.

Esprit de Gloria Saint-Julien is a second wine from Chateau Gloria; a wine made from the same vineyards as a chateau's "first wine." It's also made by the same winemaker and in the same cellars and barrels. Usually, a 'second wine' comes from younger vines that will eventually create the Chateau's greatest wine. That's the case with the Esprit de Gloria. It's made from the youngest vines, but still reflects the typicity of the Saint-Julien appellation and the spirit of Chateau Gloria.

Dark cherries and plums explode in the glass, and the wine has bold flavors of plum, cocoa, spice, tobacco, and leather. Beautiful, fruity finish. Give it time to open, at least an hour.



\$75

39 LEFT BANK – SAINT – JULIEN

LEOVILLE LAS CASES

Saint-Julien Second Growth 1989

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot.

Leoville las Cases is the greatest wine of Saint Julien. Its next door neighbor is the esteemed Chateau Latour! Chateau Leoville Las Cases has one of the longest histories in the Medoc. Leoville Las Cases was the property of some of the most notable and wealthiest inhabitants in France. The final royal family to own the estate is where the chateau draws its name from, the Lascases family.

Chateau Leoville Las Cases is not a wine to drink on the young side. The wine is usually far too tannic, powerful and reserved during its youth. But with over 30 years ageing, the 1989 is open, and showing beautiful tertiary characteristics.

1989 was an early year, with flowering three weeks ahead of usual. Now at 30 years old, a floral aspect curls out of the glass, with touches of roses and peonies, followed on the palate by bilberries and blackberries, with a cigar smoke and eucalyptus finish. It's still vigorous in its tannic structure, but it's soft and supple enough to enjoy today. This bottle was recorked by hand at the winery last year, with five people checking every single one of the 5,000 bottles remaining at the chateau. The wines were topped up from magnums of the 1989. The blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot (a variety not used in the grand vin Las Cases since 1996).

\$850



LEOVILLE LAS CASES

Saint-Julien Second Growth 2000

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot.

Along with the Medoc first growths, Leoville Barton, Chateau Montrose, Sociando Mallet, and a handful of other producers, Leoville Las Cases continues to make wine meant for very long-term cellaring. Las Cases has always wanted to make wines that challenged the quality of the First Growths, and in 2000, they absolutely did.

The vineyard has a terroir that is mostly gravel with gravelly sand and gravelly clay in their soils. Today the vines average more than 40 years of age. However, they have old vines. The oldest vines are some of their Cabernet Franc, which are close to 90 years of age.

The 2000 Leoville-Las-Cases is a quite fabulous, magisterial Saint Julien that is only just beginning to flex its muscles. It has a very intense and beautifully defined bouquet with mineral rich blackberry and bilberry scents, outstanding focus and harmony, and very well-integrated oak. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, impressive backbone and focus in situ. There is a touch of mint infusing the fruit here, superb tension with a touch of mulberry and Hoi Sin lingering on the finish that still feels backward and sinewy.

What a wine. Is this perfect? It may just be!

\$925



CHATEAU COS D'ESTOURNEL 'PAGODES DE COS'

Saint-Estéphe 2018

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot

Chateau Cos d'Estournel makes a second wine, Les Pagodes de Cos, which was first produced with the 1994 vintage. Originally, the second wine was called Marbuzet. The majority of the fruit came from their vineyard called Marbuzet.

Today, the grapes used in the second wine, Les Pagodes de Cos can from time to time, include fruit from Marbuzet, their other estate in St. Estephe, as well as grapes from young vines and declassified wine intended for Cos d'Estournel.

Probably the best second wine ever made at Cos (although the 2009 should not be discounted)! This wine exhibits beautiful, silky tannins as well as sweet, rich mulberry and black currant fruit with hints of spring flowers, licorice and subtle toast. A full-bodied, opulent and -ideal- second wine, most people who have tasted it would probably agree that it is actually better than many vintages of Cos d'Estournel from the 1960s and 1970s.

\$165



CHATEAU MONTROSE

Saint-Estéphe 2006

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petite Verdot

Chateau Montrose is known today for its powerful, full-bodied Bordeaux wine. But that is not what the property was originally known for. In fact, before Bordeaux wine was produced at the estate, it earned fame for being a hunting area. That changed when Alexandre de Segur, who also owned numerous, other illustrious Bordeaux properties such as Chateau Mouton, Chateau Lafite, and Chateau Latour, gave the property to his son, Nicolas Alexandre.

The first vintage under new owner Martin Bouygues, who convinced Jean-Bernard Delmas to come out of retirement to produce this wine, the 2006 Montrose is an undeniable success. A blend of approximately two-thirds Cabernet Sauvignon, one-third Merlot, and a tiny dollop of Petit Verdot, the most dramatic difference between the 2006, and wines made by the previous administration is that Jean Delmas produces wines with sweeter, silkier tannins, although analytically, they are as high as those found in the great Montrose vintages of the past. The 2006 is extraordinarily elegant and finesse-styled, but it exhibits stunningly concentrated, sweet blackberry and cassis fruit with hints of flowers and minerals.

\$670 1500ML (Magnum)

41 LEFT BANK—PAUILLAC



ALIAS CROIZET-BAGES

Pauillac 2011

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc,
Merlot

The vineyard Croizet-Bages is located on the plateau of Bages, left bank of Bordeaux river Garonne.

The vineyard spreads over 26 hectares and its soil is composed of gravel mixed with marl and iron ore, ideal for growing Cabernet Sauvignon.

From the seventeenth century, the vineyard was part of the important area of Bages. Located in AOC Pauillac, it ranked fifth great vintage in the official classification of Bordeaux wines of 1855. Sold to Croizet brothers, the field was a time the US industrial property Jean-Baptiste Monnot, who owned the trademark "Klaxon", then bought in 1942 by Paul Quié, wine broker at Bercy. Since 2004, the estate is directed by Jean-Philippe Quié and her twin sister Anne-Françoise. As for their other castle, Rauzan-Gassies, they display the ambition of excellence and producing ripe and fleshy wines.

\$89

LEFT BANK VS. RIGHT BANK BORDEAUX WINES

In this wine list (and other discussions of wines from Bordeaux), you will see mention of 'Right Bank' and 'Left Bank.' But to what does this refer? The answer is that the Left Bank and Right Bank are two Bordeaux winemaking regions separated by an estuary and two rivers.

Bordeaux is divided by the Gironde Estuary, which splits into the Dordogne and Garonne rivers. When looking at a map of the region, the area to the north and right of the Gironde is the Right Bank and the areas below and to the left constitute the Left Bank.

River dissections aside, there are several important distinctions between the banks, most notably the dominance of specific red grape varieties, which thrive on different banks, primarily due to differences in the soils.

While **Left Bank** wines are usually blends, Cabernet Sauvignon is the dominant force here. Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc tend to play supporting roles. Wines typically have more tannin and a bigger overall structure than their Right Bank counterparts. Pauillac, in particular, has a reputation for producing powerful, muscular wines. The *terroir* is mostly flat with gravel topsoil and limestone underneath, although the composition can vary substantially from one vineyard to the next.

Right Bank wines are predominantly Merlot-based, with Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot used as blending components. The *terroir* is comprised of a limestone surface with less gravel and more clay.

The wines tend to be rich in fruit, softer in mouthfeel with less tannin and acid. While some top wines can be aged for many years, there are plenty of wines that are also enjoyable when young.

CHÂTEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE BARON

Pauillac Second Growth Grand Cru Classé 2005

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc

The 2005 Pichon-Longueville Baron is another concentrated, full-bodied 2005 that's starting to drink well!

Chateau Pichon Baron and Chateau Pichon Lalande started out life together. At their inception, they were originally part of the same Pauillac vineyard. The chateau and vineyard of Pichon Baron acquired its name like many properties of the day, through marriage. This happened when Therese, daughter of the founder, received the estate as a dowry when she married Jacques de Pichon Longueville, the first President of the Bordeaux Parliament. This began the creation of what we now know of as Chateau Pichon Longueville Baron.

Chateau Pichon Baron as we know it today changed because of Baron Joseph de Pichon Longueville, who took over managing Pichon Baron when he was only 19 years old! When the Baron was 90, on the night of his death in 1850, he divided his Pauillac estate between his five children. Trying to be fair to everyone, his two sons received two-fifths of the vineyard and the wine-making facilities; his three daughters received the other three-fifths of the vineyards. The men were awarded what became Chateau Pichon Baron. The women were given what was to become Chateau Pichon Lalande.

Pichon Baron produces rich, full-bodied, spicy, concentrated, tannic, and elegant Bordeaux wines. You find a balance between power and refinement. The wines offer unique character and style. As they mature, they take the complexities of cassis, cedar, tobacco, wet earth and spice. In the top vintages the wines age and improve for decades. While prices have risen, so has the quality.

Weeks of sunshine preceded an entirely healthy harvest, leading to high expectations that have been fulfilled. This is still opaque red in color, the resplendent black-fruit nose accompanied by toasty oak, though still a bit reserved. Very rich and velvety, it is highly concentrated with lavish tannins. Broad-shouldered and chocolatey, it has moderate acidity and is now beginning to open up, though it remains imposing and a bit monumental. Very rich and velvety, textured and long.

\$700



43 LEFT BANK-PAUILLAC



CHÂTEAU LATOUR

Pauillac Premier Grand Cru Classé 1996

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot

Chateau Latour is the most consistent of the 'First Growth' Bordeauxs, and their wines some of the most long-lived. The 1996, even with a quarter of a century of bottle age, is just hitting its sweet spot.

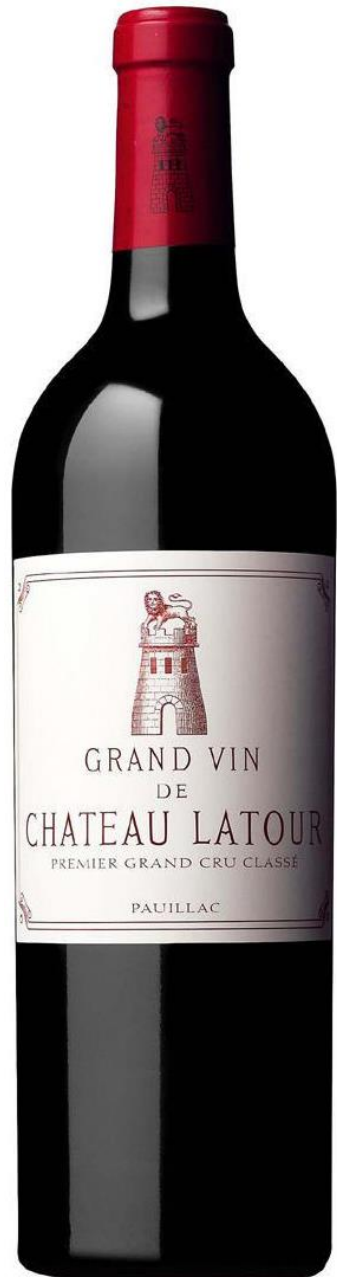
The history of Château Latour can be traced back to 1378, the year in which court historian Jean Froissart wrote of a two-story tower called 'La Tor de Sent-Maubert' being captured by English soldiers during the Hundred Years War. A report in 1755 — 100 years before the 1855 Classification of Bordeaux — showed Latour was already recognized as a producer of some of the best wine in the region, listing it as one of only four properties whose wines fetched more than 900 livres for a tonneau (the others being Haut-Brion, Lafite and Cantenac).

The estate is located at the southern edge of Pauillac, bordering the St. Julien vineyards of Ch. Léoville Las Cases, and covers 78 hectares. Latour possesses some of the best soils in Bordeaux. Gently sloping, the gravelly surface provides exceptional drainage and consists of both large stones and small pebbles. Beneath this is a moist subsoil composed of marl, chalk and clay, which provides nourishment to the roots and encourages them to dig deeper, an important factor when considering that it is the oldest vines with the deepest roots that are often considered to produce the finest fruit.

Although Latour makes legendary wines in the best vintages, it is this estate's consistent ability to turn out exceptional wines in vintages that are deemed to have been off-years that marks it out from its peers. Vintages such as 1963 and 1977 are excellent illustrations of this, the latter being an example of a cold vintage during which few producers were able to make good wine.

Inky black even at 25 years old. A hugely impressive wine, with plenty of chewy tannins still in play, ripples of cassis, bilberry and blackberry fruits, set against olive paste, charcoal and eucalyptus. Things have softened around the edges no question, this is still full of life with decades ahead of it, but this is a great moment to start enjoying its promise. Textbook Latour in many ways, for its austerity and power, and its serious character that is underlaid by concentrated pleasure showcasing 'the gift of sub-gravel clays.'

\$2500



CHÂTEAU LATOUR

Pauillac Premier Grand Cru Classé 2009

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot

At the southern edge of the Pauillac Appellation In Medoc lies the fairytale-like Château Latour - a Primeur Grand Cru Classé 1855. During the historic Hundred Year War, a tower called Tor à Saint-Lambert was built on the land, and it stood guard over the Gironde River. The original tower was destroyed in 1453 at the Battle of Castillon. However, in the 1600s, a decorative circular tower was built and called La Tour de Saint-Lambert. This tower inspired the name of the wine estate.

The Chateau's badge of honor is their consistency - year after year, the winery produces exceptional wine. These great wines are full of power, energy, and intense concentration. The Chateau's Grand Vin is made exclusively from "Vieilles Vignes" or, in English, "Old Vines" that are a minimum of 60 years old. Even in lesser years, Latour is renowned for producing wonderful wines. And in great vintages? The wines are legendary, and are capable of ageing for a century. 2009 was absolutely one such vintage.

Not surprisingly for such a great vintage, the 2009 Chateau Latour received fantastic accolades. Wine Spectator found that the wine flirted with perfection, and bestowed it with a 99 point review.

'This seems to come full circle, with a blazing iron note and mouthwatering acidity up front leading to intense, vibrant cassis, blackberry and cherry skin flavors that course along, followed by the same vivacious minerality that started things off. The tobacco, ganache and espresso notes seem almost superfluous right now, but they'll join the fray in due time. The question is, can you wait long enough?'

\$3200

45 LEFT BANK - MARGAUX

THE CLASSIFICATION OF 1855

...AND WHAT IS A CLASSIFIED GROWTH, ANYWAY?

Café des Amis is pleased to have 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Growth Bordeaux on the wine list, but you may be wondering to what this refers.

The 1855 classification of Bordeaux wines was created at the request of Napoleon III, to be presented at the Exposition Universelle de Paris. Showcasing the very best French wines, the classification ranked sixty top Bordeaux reds; fifty-nine from the Medoc and one from Graves. **The original rankings still stand 160 years later, with only one change; the promotion of Chateau Mouton Rothschild to Premier Cru status in 1973.**

Simply, put, the best Bordeaux wines from the Left Bank were classed according to their price and quality in five different classes; First Growth, Second Growth, Third Growth, Fourth Growth and Fifth Growth.

So, are only the Classified Growth Bordeauxs the only ones worth buying? Not at all: There are chateau producing wine well above their previous level of growth while there are perforce other estates making wine that is not at the level expected of their classified status. And none of that takes into consideration all the stunning wines from the Right Bank being produced in Pomerol and St. Emilion!

Nor could it possibly take into account all the newer Bordeaux producers that have appeared in the past 166 years!



CHATEAU PALMER

Margaux 3ème Cru Classé 2005

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petite Verdot

One of the most famed estates of Margaux, only behind Château Margaux itself. The estate is a 3ème Cru Classé but has long been considered a 'supersecond.'

The estate is planted with Cabernet Sauvignon 55%, Merlot 40%, Cabernet Franc 5% - with the high proportion of Merlot setting it apart from many left bank properties. Strong cloves on the nose, this remains very young at 10 years old, but has the heady perfume that makes Palmer such a distinctive and beguiling wine. A hefty wine, ambitious and muscular. Notes of incense and damsons.

The 2005 Château Palmer is in a gorgeous place right now where it is just beginning to show the very early signs of aromatic development. Dark, powerful and seductive, the 2005 is a totally effortless wine. You have to sit with the glass, let it unfurl on your tongue, needs food if you are drinking soon. Showcases the power of 2005, and its success. Even with all of its overt radiance and intensity, the Palmer retains the sense of freshness that is such a signature of the year.

\$950

CHÂTEAU MARGAUX

Margaux 1er Grand Cru Classé 1996

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot



Chateau Margaux, a Premier Grand Cru Classé Bordeaux, is one of the most famous wines in the world. Best known with the name of Château de la Mothe Margaux in the 13th century, the estate was then a fortress, destroyed in 1801 by the owner, who built it back like we know it today, with its Ionic arcades, its outstanding stairs, and classical façade. Care has been lavished on the property by a line of owners with an abiding concern for the reputation of the estate. For more than five hundred years, season after season, generations of vineyard-workers, grape harvesters, cellar-workers, coopers and many other craftsmen have all played a part in making Chateau Margaux what it is today: a wine with an incomparable personality, reflected in the elegant Palladian building which adorns its label. In 1977, the estate was purchased by the late André Mentzelopoulos, and it is now run by his daughter, Corinne Mentzelopoulos.

The vineyard spreads on 82 hectares and lays on a gravelly and clay-limestone soil, and is a Premier Grand Cru classified from the 1855 and 1973 prestigious lists, that only list five like that: Château Lafite Rothschild, Château Latour, Château Mouton Rothschild, all three Pauillac, Château Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan and Château Margaux, Margaux.

Is this wine perfection? The Wine Advocate believes so, having lavished the wine with praise, and granting it with a perfect 100 point rating.

“The 1996 Chateau Margaux, a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, must be a strong contender for wine of the vintage. It offers everything you desire from this First Growth. **It is blessed with breathtaking delineation and freshness on the nose, understated at first and then blossoming with mineral-infused black fruit, hints of blueberry, crushed stone and violet. The palate is perfectly balanced with filigree tannin, perfect acidity, a wine where everything seems to be in its right place. Blackberry, crushed stone at the front of the mouth, just a touch of spice towards the finish that shows supreme control. This is a Margaux that seems to light up the senses. It was outstanding in its youth...something that has not changed one bit over the intervening two decades. This may well turn out to be the Left Bank pinnacle of the 1990s.**”

\$2800

47 LEFT BANK - MARGAUX

LEFT BANK - PESSAC-LEOGNAN

CHATEAU D'ISSAN

Margaux 2017

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot

Château d'Issan did not need the famous 1855 classification distinguishing it as a 3rd Grand Cru Classé to establish its reputation. This was already made back in the 12th century, when it was reported to have been served at the wedding of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Henri Plantagenet, future King of England on 18th May 1152.

The wine is made from the old vines in the Château d'Issan enclosure in the middle of the Margaux appellation. The soil here is mainly made up of surface gravel on top of a clay subsoil, which contributes to optimal ripeness and freshness in the vineyards.

The 2017 Chateau D'Issan offers more of everything, with a deep ruby/plum color and rocking notes of black raspberries, cassis, spring flowers, violets, loamy earth, and dried tobacco. Beautifully textured, elegant, and finesse-oriented, it has excellent tannins, medium to full body, and an outstanding finish. Based on a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot.



\$79

CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT

Pessac-Léognan 2018

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc

Château Pape Clement has a long and interesting history in Bordeaux wine production - the chateau is named after the properties' most famous owner who was a Pope, In 1305 the cardinal's elected Bertrand de Goth the Pope. He was renamed Clement V, which is where the Bordeaux property took its historic name.

The Pope, Clement V was widely known for his interest in wine. Due to his strong interest in wine, Clement V received a Pessac Leognan estate as a gift. The gift included the vineyard de la Mothe. Clement V developed an interest in the production of Bordeaux wine, started with his efforts at working in the vineyards.

Composed of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc brought up in 60% new French oak, the 2018 Château Pape Clement is a gorgeous wine. Deep ruby/purple, with stunning crème de cassis and blackberry fruits as well as kaleidoscope-like notes of graphite, scorched earth, smoke, violets, and spring flowers, it offers full-bodied richness yet stays light on its feet, graceful, and almost ethereal on the palate, with integrated acidity and building yet seamless tannin's.



\$380



CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT 'CLÉMENTIN DE PAPE CLÉMENT'

Pessac-Léognan 2018

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot

Château Pape Clément is one of the oldest properties in Bordeaux. The vineyard was first planted in the 13th century by Bertrand de Goth the youngest son of a noble family from Bordeaux. He was the Archbishop of Bordeaux and became Pope in 1305 then took the name of Clément V. The estate can take pride in the production of wine in the same vineyards for over 7 centuries.

In the 1980s Bernard Magrez an entrepreneur passionate about wine took over the Château and built an international reputation for their wines.

This is the second label from Chateau Pape Clément; modern in style, with rich, lush textures and intense concentration of ripe fruit. This is drinking extremely well right now, fresh, lively, and very approachable.

Aged for 14 months in 40% new oak, the nose is inviting with plum, blackcurrant, dried herbs, and spice, followed by supple tannins, high acidity, and a long, generous finish.

\$120



CHÂTEAU PAPE CLEMENT 'LA PRÉLAT DE PAPE CLEMENT'

Graves 2018

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc

Château Pape Clément is one of the oldest estates in Bordeaux. The château takes its name from Pope Clement V who developed the wine-growing activity of the property in the 13th century. Château Pape Clément produces wines whose reputation has been established for more than seven centuries.

Le Prêlat is a third wine from Chateau Pape Clément. It is aged for 14 months in a combination of new and one-year-old barrels.

Ripe berries on the nose, discreet spiciness, somehow closed character. On the palate well-structured with medium bodied character and length, appealing fruit.

\$40 375ml half bottle

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR CARNET

Haut-Médoc Fourth Growth 2018

Cépages:

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot

Château La Tour Carnet goes back 800 years. Following a clutch of different owners the property remained with the Thibault de Carmaing family for 200 years, followed by Charles de Leutken. After two generations Leutken's grandson inherited in 1861, but was eventually faced with gradual decline which lasted many decades. In 1962, the Lipschitzs, followed by their daughter, by then Marie-Claire Pelegrin, launched the regeneration of the estate - and in 1999 the challenge was taken up and continued by present owner Bernard Magrez.

An excellent wine from proprietor Bernard Magrez, this blend of 57% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot exhibits a dense ruby/purple color in addition to a big, sweet nose of black cherries, black currants, graphite and smoky oak. Medium-bodied with excellent density and fruit, good acidity and silky tannins, this striking 2011 should drink well for 15 or more years.



\$107

CHATEAU CITRAN

Haut-Médoc 2010

Cépages:

Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc

Every once in awhile, we are able to source older bottlings from estates in France. Of course, we are always careful to check the Provenance, but we have been able to bring in some lovely wines with some age by doing so.

2010 was a warm vintage in France, and produced a lot of wines that were ripe and powerful, but the Citran is more about grace and balance than being a 'blockbuster.'

Fruity aromas of red plum, smoky black cherry and milk chocolate complemented by a cedary nuance. Chocolatey-ripe, soft and supple, with flavors similar to the aromas. Time has softened this reasonably bright mid-weight wine, and the good balancing acidity and high-quality tannins make it pretty enjoyable glass of wine!



\$99

CHATEAU CITRAN*Haut-Médoc 2015***Cépages:**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot

2010, 2015 and 2016 were both exceptional vintages in Bordeaux, and being able to offer all three on our list makes us very happy indeed!

Due to the way that Bordeaux is sold, which is a complicated network of various importers and *negociants*, we were able to purchase both vintages at the same time through different sources.

Chateau Citran Chateau Citran is one of the larger Left Bank estates, with 105 hectares of vines with a terroir of sand, gravel, chalk and clay soils. Located in the far south of the Haut Medoc appellation, the vineyard is planted to 50% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7.5% Cabernet Franc and 2.5% Petit Verdot.

The 2015 Citran is medium garnet-purple in color with savory notes of chargrill and sautéed herbs over warm plums and blackberries notions. Medium-bodied with firm, chewy tannins, it's a little tart in the mouth with a grippy finish, but decanting or just giving the wine some time in the glass softens the wine considerably.

\$69**CHATEAU CITRAN***Haut-Médoc 2018***Cépages:**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot

Chateau Citran is one of the oldest Bordeaux properties in the Medoc with a history that goes all the way back to the 13th century. At the time, like most of the properties built in those days, its primary purpose was as a fortress. The modern era for Chateau Citran begins with the purchase of the estate by the Mialhe family in 1945. The Mialhe family are not only successful vineyard owners in Bordeaux, but they are also one of the larger negociants in the region. Today, Chateau Citran is owned by two well-established families from Bordeaux, the Merlaut family, who heads the Taillan group, which counts Chateau Gruaud Larose in St. Julien , Chateau Ferrier in Margaux , Chateau Chasse Spleen , and others amongst its holdings.

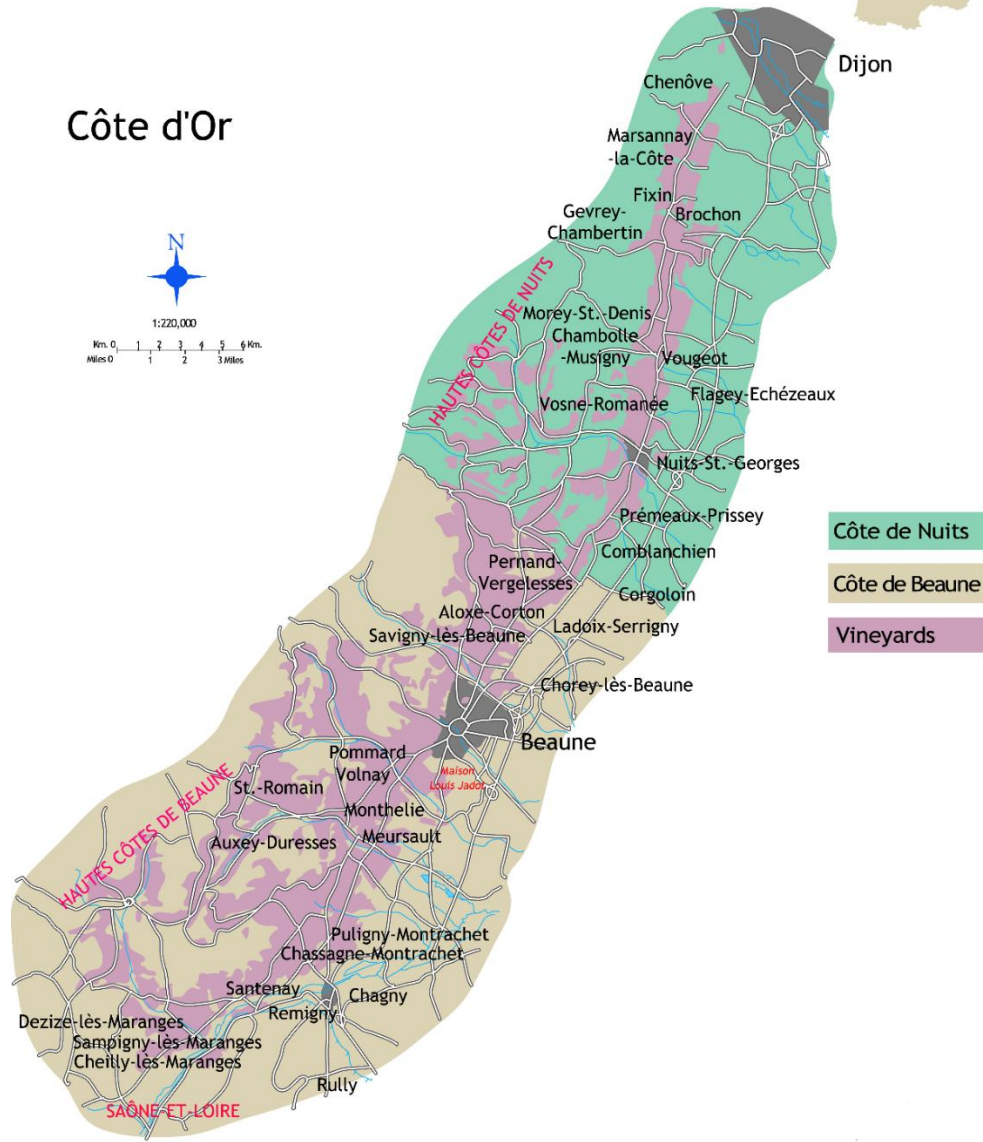
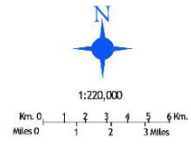
Fresh and floral on the nose, with ripe red fruits emerging with air. On the palate, a lovely mineral presence frames and lifts the ripe raspberry and blackberry flavors. The satisfying finish features very smooth tannins and sneaky complexity, with lingering hints of mango and cedar. The 2016 is drinking beautifully already, although we would still recommend decanting.

\$59

France
Selected
Viticultural
Regions

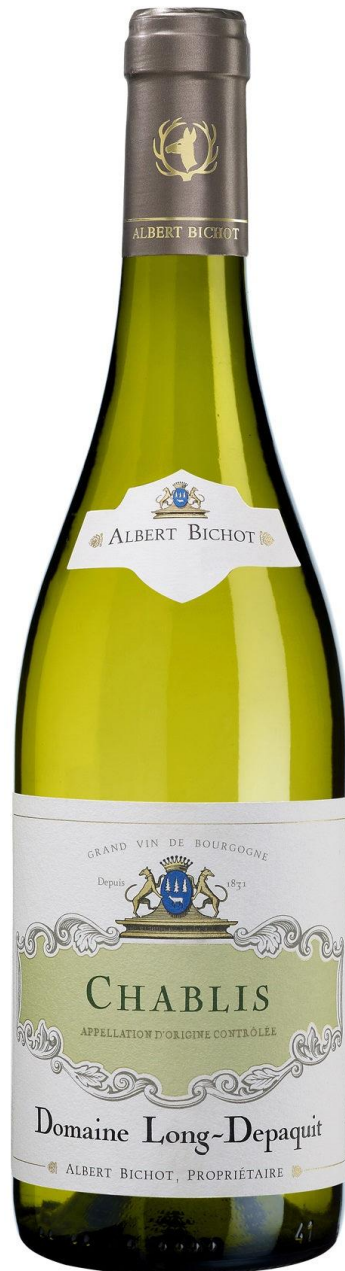


Côte d'Or



ALBERT-BICHOT*Chablis 2021***Cépage:**

Chardonnay



Our search for great White Burgundy at a reasonable price frequently presents a challenge. This is especially true of the 2001 vintage, a year which sadly only yielded wine in very small quantities. Domaine Albert-Bichot produced a lovely Chablis this vintage, and thankfully there was enough of it for us to add to the list.

This winery has been floating under the radar for a few years, but has emerged as a producer of some of the finest wines from Burgundy. We are grateful that they have been a hidden gem, as it has kept the prices lower than what many other top domaines are charging!

This is surprisingly aromatic wine for a village-level Chablis, with plenty of fresh-lemon, white-peach and tarte-au-citron character. Cooler and crisper on the palate than the nose suggested, but that makes it very clean and refreshing. Good length, the finish nicely supported by a touch of tannin.

\$49**PATTES LOUP***Chablis 1er Cru 'Butteaux' 2017***Cépage:**

Chardonnay



Domaine Pattes Loup is one of the most exciting estates to emerge from Chablis in recent years (Pattes Loup means "wolf's paws"). Thomas Pico started his tiny estate in Courgis in 2005, just outside of Chablis, under the wing of his friends and fellow organic Chabliens, Alice and Olivier de Moor. He inherited excellent vineyards from his family, although the wines had truthfully been underperforming.

Motivated to take a qualitative leap in a new direction, and against the wishes of his father, he immediately began a program of strict yield control and a conversion to Organic Viticulture—a rarity in Chablis, and a feat of extreme diligence in this often inhospitable vine growing region.

This wine is precise, savory, and super food-friendly. Notes of lemon rind, chalky wet rocks, and briny sea salt ooze from the wine's razor-sharp palate.

\$140

DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Clos,' 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay



Recently we had a chance to try barrel samples of many of the 2019 vintage wines from Albert-Bichot, and we were stunned by their quality, even though the wines were still in their infancy. While we expected the vintage to produce stunning reds, it was perhaps the wines that surprised (and delighted) us the most, with brilliant acidity and perfect structure, giving the wines loads of tension and vibrancy.

Bichot’s property in Chablis, Long-Depaquit, excelled in the vintage. Their Les Clos is, of course, always brilliant; expressive and powerful, with the full, luscious weight of the warm year behind it. 25% is raised in oak, of which only a tiny portion is new. This is a buttery, weighted, striking, and satisfying Les Clos, given exciting precision by the vintage’s wonderful acidity.

Pair this with a richer dish off of our menu, and give it a little time to breath to really strut its stuff. An amazing wine.

\$180



The Magical Les Clos Grand Cru Vineyard

Chablis is arguably the best-known region for White Burgundy, but the region of Chablis actually sits Northwest of the Cote d’Or, the narrow strip that comprises most of Burgundy. In Chablis, the soil is a very specific type called ‘Kimmeridgian;’ a clay-based soil with limestone rocks deposited here a little over 150 million years ago, and laced with fossilized seashells from a time when this area was under water. The region is actually closer to Champagne than the Cote d’Or, both from a temperature standpoint and from a stylistic point, as well. The wines are bright and full of energy.

Of the 12,000 acres of vineyards planted in Chablis, only seven vineyards covering 250 acres (2%) qualify as Grand Cru. And of these seven, many consider “Les Clos” the finest. As Master of Wine Clive Coates puts it, Les Clos combines “depth, intensity, and great elegance” – or in other words, is “Chablis at its very, very finest.”

As you can imagine, there’s not much of Les Clos, or indeed, any Grand Cru Chablis to go around, and each year we buy everything that we can fit into our Café’s modest cellars. Each of the Grand Crus on our list offer an exceptional drinking experience. We would recommend decanting these wines, as they all offer pronounced structure, and benefit from a little time to ‘unpack.’



Oysters and Chablis – the perfect pairing

These are a few of our favorite things...

We do not always have oysters available at Café des Amis (they are often said to best in months with the letter 'R' in them), but when we do, Chablis is one of our favorite pairings.

Steely, dry, high-acid white wines are the typical oyster pairing, but Chablis is one of the most excellent for them. The Kimmeridgian soil in the area, comprised of clay and oyster shells, is what gives Chablis its freshness, minerality and marine notes.

Guillaume loves oysters. He once said he hopes that he is eating them on his deathbed when he finally slips away. Please do not wait THAT long to try this wonderful combination!



DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Grand Cru 'Blanchots,' 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Domaine Long-Depaquit is one of the largest in Chablis, with 62 hectares under vine. This becomes increasingly important as Burgundy faces weather change-related challenges, such as frosts which kill grapes. These frosts have become more frequent in the past decades, making securing white Burgundies somewhat of a challenge.

Pale in color, with hints of green to the hue, the wine opens with vibrant white fruits, and a touch of oak. The fruit is balanced and pure, but there is weight behind it, as well.

The Blanchots is ripe with citrus and crisp apple. Textured and mineral, it has a good balance between weight, spicy richness and intense fruitiness.

While Les Clos holds a very special place in our heart, the 2019 Blanchots is a wonderful counterpart to it, and we find ourselves torn between the two wines!

\$170

55 BURGUNDY-CHABLIS

LUCIEN LEMOINE

Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Preuses' 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Lucien le Moine is committed to producing wines of excellent purity. The lees are gently stirred throughout winter in order to nourish the wines, providing the complexity and richness. The malolactic fermentation occurs the following spring. The wines are bottled by gravity with no filtration or pumping.

Famous for its minerality, this Climat of Chablis Grand Cru takes its name from the word "pierre" (stone). Overlooking the Chablis valley, Chablis Grand Cru Preuses is quite imposing. Its 10.8 hectares, facing south and southwest, are bathed in sunlight for most of the day. In the summer, they take advantage of the last rays until late in the evening.

Elegant and pure aromas of green fruit, citrus confit, orange peel and iodine wisps are trimmed in a gentle dollop of wood. There is again excellent volume to the less mineral driven but finer medium-bodied flavors that conclude in an agreeably dry, refined and sneaky long finish. A firm Chablis grand cru of finesse and punch.

\$362



LUCIEN LEMOINE

Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Preuses' 2018

Cépage:
Chardonnay

The wines of Lucien Lemoine are a rarity; even more rare is the Grand Cru Chablis 'Les Presuses' (Saouma made just **one barrel** of the 2015!).

Knockout aromas of lemon, licorice, menthol, white pepper and crushed rock. Powerful, bracing flavors of lemon, ginger and spices boast terrific energy and sappy penetration. This grand cru displays atypical density of material for Chablis-- and even for vintage 2018 - but we're not complaining. The ginger, quinine and licorice flavors are joined by herbs and citrus oil on the very long, spectacularly perfumed finish. Mounir Saouma notes that the wine received nearly three years of *élevage* (ageing) and is solid as a rock and built for a glorious evolution in bottle.

Decant this wine, and have this with seafood (especially Oysters if they are on the menu) and chicken dishes.

What a wine!

\$870 1500ML Magnum

BRUNO CLAIR*Bourgogne 2018***Cépage:**
Aligote

Bruno Clair founded the estate that bears his name in 1979. Based out of Marsannay at the Northern extremity of the Côte de Nuits, the estate now covers 24 hectares of vineyards stretching the length of the Côte d'Or with the most substantial holdings in Gevrey-Chambertin. Winemaker Philippe Brun shows a deft hand, producing powerful wines that speak of the regions terroir from the stunning Grand Cru of Chambertin-Clos de Beze and Bonnes Mares through to the entry level Marsannay Blanc. Elegance, power and structure are the themes across the range for the wines of Bruno Clair.

This shows bright green fruit, with the ripe acidity one expects from Aligote, yet this is also ripe and fleshy with hints of pepper.

This is a rather rare wine, and we wish that we could have bought more of this!

**\$55****BENJAMIN LEROUX***Bourgogne 2020***Cépage:**
Chardonnay

Each year we buy as much of the Bourgogne blanc and rouge from Benjamin Leroux as we can, and it is still never enough. Leroux has become one of the best known names in Burgundy, and his wines are always in high demand.

Tasting the 2020 vintage, it's no wonder why! The fruit for the Bourgogne blanc comes almost entirely from Meursault. The wine is aged in wood, but the barrels are old, neutral barrels of very large size, which lets the *terroir* of the wine shine through.

The Bourgogne Blanc is a textbook 2020: intense, balanced, cool for the vintage, and with delightful drinkability. 2020 as a vintage in Burgundy was fairly warm, but Leroux's vineyards are all in cooler microclimates.

The Bourgogne blanc shows melon, honey and pear notes, on a frame with medium acidity, and great mouthfeel. This is drinking superbly now!

**\$62**



ALVINA PERNOT

Bourgogne 'Femelottes' 2021

Cépage:
Chardonnay

What a brilliant entry into white Burgundy! Not only is Alvin Pernet one of the most exciting young producers in Burgundy, but the Femelottes vineyard is one which provides amazing values as well.

Femelottes sits within the region of Puligny-Montrachet, and although it borders the Puligny-Montrachet AOC, it technically sits outside of the official appellation. There are 2 parcels in Femelottes that were blended together for the 2021 vintage; next year these will be bottles separately

What does this mean? It means most of the quality of Puligny-Montrachet for a fraction of the price!

Aromas of citrus zest, white flowers, fresh bread and struck match introduce Pernet's 2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or, a medium to full-bodied, satiny and chiseled wine built around a bright spine of acidity, with a saline note on the finish.

\$75

WHAT IS TERROIR?
(TEHR-WAHR)

Throughout these pages, the term *terroir* is oft-used. But what exactly is *terroir*?

Terroir is a French word, with no one-word English translation. Essentially, *terroir* is a word that refers to all of the unique physical characteristics of a particular vineyard (or even a parcel within a vineyard), and how all of those characteristics are expressed in the wines that come from that place.

Some examples; is the soil clay, which holds in water, or is it sand, or gravel that drains water well? Is the area cool, warm or hot? Does the temperature drop a lot at night? Does it get more sunshine in the morning or the afternoon? Is it rocky? Is it windy? Is it high elevation, which might be cooler and have poorer soils due to erosion, or does it sit on the base of a hill or in a valley? Very small differences can make a significant difference in the wines.

What *terroir* isn't: a wine flaw, such as 'Brett' (*shorthand for a yeast strain called Brettanomyces*), cork taint, oak barrel influence, when a winegrower picks the grapes, how long the wines are aged, etc. Anything that is a fault in winemaking, or anything that the winemaker does to the grapes or to the wine (whether good or bad) is not *terroir*.

But why does all this matter? Because wines should express their sense of place, the beauty of their particular region, slope or vineyard. There is beauty in the variations, and these subtleties make *all* the difference.



HERITIERS DU COMTE LAFON

Saint-Véran 2020

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Dominique Lafon has become a legend in the historic region of the Maconnais and wines like his Les Héritiers du Comte Lafon Saint Véran is one of the reasons. Along with winemaker Caroline Gon, the wines of Héritiers du Comte Lafon are certified organic and biodynamic showcasing the true flavor of both the fruit and terrior. This vintage of his Saint Véran is from 25 year old vines and made using only indigenous yeasts, this wine is of medium weight showing off a nice lemon-tinged acidity along with a nice satiny palate and a mineral finish. This wine is all at once dry with a little bit of complexity.

The 2020 Saint-Véran exhibits aromas of citrus oil, crisp green apple, almond paste and white flowers, followed by a medium to full-bodied, satiny and incisive palate, its charming core of fruit tempered by racy acids, and concluding with a mineral finish.

\$79



HERITIERS DU COMTE LAFON

Vire-Clessé 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Considered one of the finest winemakers in France, Dominique Lafon produces coveted white Burgundies from some of the greatest vineyards in the Cote de Beaune. Always hungry for new challenges, he purchased 14 hectares of vines in the Maconnais in 1999. He believes strongly in the potential of the region, but feels that too few vigneronns have attempted to realize that potential.

Les Héritiers du Comte Lafon's Viré-Clessé is made from the old vines surrounding the Château de Viré. It has a fine pale color and a rich, almost exotic bouquet. Despite the opulence of the nose, the wine is very harmonious on the palate, with some greengage and melon fruit. It has impressive weight and a fine, long finish.

This is an amazing value for fans of Comte-Lafon, and indeed any fans of great white Burgundy!

\$79



MARIE-PIERRE MANCIAT

Pouilly-Fuissé 'Les Petites Bruyères' 2021

Cépage:
Chardonnay

A little denser and more unctuous than the Les Morizottes, with a touch more overt minerality reflective of the *terroir*, there's simply more going on here than most other comparable examples. Manciat seems to easily maintain an almost buttery texture while keeping it expressive and engaging. These are some of the best Chardonnay deals we have run across recently and they've definitely got style.

The 2021 Pouilly-Fuissé les Petites Bruyères comes from 30-year-old vines, fermented in both barrel and stainless steel where the wine matures for 11 months. It has a pretty bouquet with scents of lemon peel, freshly cut pear, nettle and limestone. The palate is fresh and vibrant with crisp acidity, fine tension with a tightly wound, mineraly finish that suggests decanting will be required. This is an austere, but classy, Pouilly-Fuissé and I suspect it will age extremely well. Highly recommended.

\$55



ALBERT BICHOT

Montagny 1^{er} 2018

Cépage:
Chardonnay

The Côte Chalonnaise village of Montagny is one of the last bastions of real white Burgundy value, and this rich and vibrant wine makes that point nicely.

This brilliant, limpid Montagny Premier Cru is golden in color and redolent of oak, vanilla and brioche. It is round and delectable on the palate with lovely vivacity and minerality. The finish is long and fragrant with flavors of almond and fresh and cooked apple.

The use of French oak barrels bring a toasty and nutty long finish. A wonderful bottle that will delight all lovers of sophisticated burgundy whites.

Enjoy this delicate wine with fine fish such as bream or sole, seafood or poultry.

\$75

LUCIEN LE MOINE

Nuits-St-Georges 1^{er} Cru 'Les Terres Blanches' 2020

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Lucien Le Moine is a haute-couture trader/farmer maison created by Mounir Saouma and Rotem Brakin, a Lebanese couple. After the husband spent some time in a monastery and a first attempt at the art of making wine, then embarked on enology studies, he created his structure in 1999 to offer wine from the finest terroirs. The name of the maison comes from the nickname that his friends gave him as a result of his education in the Cistercian cloister: "Le Moine", the Monk. Lucien was the name given to him by the monks. Today, he produces 38 different crus, ranging from village wines to grand crus. The vinification and élevage are very precise and well done, as delicately and naturally as possible.

It isn't for nothing that this wine carries the Nuits-Saint-Georges name. The terroir comes through strongly in this cuvée, marked by a pale color, a delicate aromatic bouquet, and a rich palate that is nevertheless underscored by a certain freshness. All of this in perfect harmony!



\$359

ALVINA PERNOT

Meursault 1^{er} Cru 'La piece sous le Bois' 2020

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Ah, Meursault! One of our favorite regions in all of Burgundy for white wine. Meursault does the magic trick of being steely, yet fleshy, crisp, yet oily. And it ages oh-so-well.

With the vast experience and knowledge she gained from working on her grandfather's vineyards, Domaine Paul Pernot, for 3 years, Alvina Pernot has come into her own producing some of the finest wines of Burgundy. She is one of the rising stars of Burgundy, and we are thrilled to have her wines on our list.

The 2020 Meursault Le Pièce Sous Le Bois 1er Cru comes from a parcel owned by the Pernot family that was regrafted from red varieties in 2000. It has a finely-tuned nose with traces of grilled walnut and almond scents, needing a little encouragement from the glass, not a million miles away from a Genevrières in style. The palate is feisty, a bit of a wild child and there is nothing wrong with that. Good weight and plenty of spice towards the finish that gets the saliva flowering.

This and seafood. A match made in heaven!



\$175

61 BURGUNDY



The Genius of Comte Lafon

Domaine des Comtes Lafon has the deepest and coldest cellars in Burgundy and they nurture some of the greatest dry white wines of Burgundy. Dominique Lafon is the leading producer in Meursault, producing wines of astonishing depth and complexity, yet supremely balanced as well. He is sometimes referred to, by those who know, as the greatest white wine producer in the world.

The domaine dates back to the building of the house and cellar at Clos de la Barre by the Boch family in 1869. However the real creator of the estate was Comte Jules Lafon who married Mademoiselle Marie Boch on St Vincent's day 1894, and was shrewd enough to purchase exceptionally well sited plots in the best vineyards of Meursault and Volnay, as well as a treasured piece of Le Montrachet acquired in 1919.

Café des Amis is pleased to have an allocation of these exceptional (and exceptionally rare) wines

DOMAINE DES COMTE LAFON

Meursault 2017

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Dominique Lafon is widely considered one of the finest winemakers in France, and the 2017 vintage is an excellent year for Domaine des Comtes Lafon, where and his team seems to have attained a new level of consistency. After the better part of two decades' experimentation and refinement, Lafon has found a mature aesthetic.

This is lovely, offering up appealing aromas of crisp peach, pear, lemon, white flowers and a touch of praline. On the palate, the wine is medium to full-bodied, satiny and layered, with excellent cut and tension that belies its seductively textural attack.

\$185

DOMAINE DES COMTE LAFON

Meursault 'Clos de la Barre' 2017

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Dominique Lafon's home vineyard, the Clos de la Barre, is a 2.4ha parcel that sits just below the winery on clay and limestone soils and regularly produces one of the best village Meursaults.

The 2017 Meursault Clos de la Barre has turned out very well, opening in the glass with a youthfully reserved bouquet of citrus oil, clear honey, green orchard fruit and almond paste.

On the palate, the wine is medium to full-bodied, supple and satiny, with tangy acids, good concentration, and a lively, saline finish. A simply stunning wine. We would recommend decanting.

\$275

DOMAINE DES COMTE LAFON

Meursault 'Clos de la Barre' 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Domaine des Comtes Lafon has been in the Lafon family since 1865. Dominique Lafon took over the domaine in 1983. All of his vineyards are cultivated biodynamically and he is proud to own every Premier Cru in Meursault.

The oldest vines in this 2.12ha Lafon monopole were planted in 1950. Although it was picked fairly late, the biodynamically-farmed vines managed to retain a vibrant acidity, with the aromas beginning with citrus peel and ripe pear, before revealing the spice and butter notes imparted by the cask ageing. On the palate, there is a marvelously juicy texture and a lingering finish.

\$300

ALBERT-BICHOT

Meursault 2016

Cépage:
Chardonnay

The first traces of the Bichot family date back to 1214. They settled in Burgundy in 1350, in their fief of Chateauneuf-en-Auxois. The family's coat of arms has not changed since nor has its symbol, a doe (*biche*).

Produced from one of this negociant's own vineyards, this wine is on the generous side of Meursault. Richness, fruitiness and touches of wood aging are balanced with the crisper, mineral texture that will let the wine age.

Generous and flattering, this wine reveals notes of crystallised lemon, almonds, white flowers and freshly-baked bread. The mouth is suave and velvety without heaviness, with hints of warm brioche and spices. Persistent and tasty, the finish mirrors the bouquet's aromas.

The nose is discreetly toasty followed by elegant floral notes on a backdrop of light plum and pear fruity aromas. The mouth is powerful, well-balanced and dense, with delicious brioche flavors. The finish is persistent and very aromatic.



\$120

ALBERT-BICHOT

Puligny-Montrachet 2016

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Located in central Burgundy in the southern portion of the Cote de Beaune, the Puligny-Montrachet appellation together with Meursault and Chassagne-Montrachet constitutes the prestigious 'cote des blancs.'

This wine is still young, with hints of richness behind its currently tight structure. It has plenty of acidity as well as ripe yellow and white stone-fruit flavors that are lifted by hints of spice from wood aging. This wine has plenty of the aristocratic character of a fine Puligny-Montrachet.

Puligny-Montrachet and its Premiers Crus are concentrated and well-bred. Their balance, aromatic complexity, and purified style demand delicate but rich food. They are equally at home with poultry in sauce or veal fried with mushrooms. Their great distinction elicits a grateful response from foie gras, and grilled or fried sea-fish. On the cheese-board, its natural allies are goat cheeses, Reblochon, or soft-centered cheeses like Brie.

This half bottle is the perfect way to start dinner, to enjoy with your meal, or to accompany a cheese tray at the end of the evening.



\$85 375ml (half bottle)

THE FAMOUS HILL OF CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE



Are there any finer wines in the world than the Chardonnays that hail from Corton-Charlemagne? Certainly they are among the great wines of the world in any wine aficionado's book! The Hill of Corton, high and rounded, sits almost on the border between the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune. It has vineyards on three sides corresponding to the three villages of Aloxe-Corton, Pernand-Vergelesses and Ladoix-Serrigny These vineyards were a gift of the Emperor Charlemagne to the religious community of Saint-Andoche de Saulieu in the year 775.

It remained in their possession for a thousand years, and today still celebrates, at least in name, their illustrious benefactor.

These wines are the essence of clarity, steeliness, minerality, verticality ... but priced accordingly. They are rare and sought after, and we are flattered to have some of Clos de la Chapelle's Corton in our cellars.

When young, Corton-Charlemagne is pale gold in color with green highlights. As it ages, the color shifts towards yellow or amber.

The bouquet, delicate in the extreme, features buttery notes of baked apple, citrus fruits, pineapple, lime, bracken, juniper, cinnamon, and flint. Honeyed notes are frequently present. Both the glass and the palate are filled with its powerful exhalations. Corton- Charlemagne is an astonishing demonstration of what the Chardonnay grape is capable of in terms of richness, power, concentration, distinction and balance.

We would highly recommend decanting these selections.

LUCIEN LE MOINE*Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru 2014***Cépage:**
Chardonnay

Micro-négociant and éleveur extraordinaire Mounir Saouma describes 2014 as “a fantastic vintage for white wines in the old style, with low alcohol, high acidity and low pH. The wines are crisper than the fatter 2013s.” Saouma noted that the grape skins in 2014 were ripe even if they didn’t show that quality early on. “But now you really feel the stony dry extract in the wines. The long time on the lees really extended the wines’ finishes. The 2014s show perfect typicity of vineyard and vintage.”

The vineyards of **Corton-Charlemagne** sweep three villages near the top of the hill - Aloxe-Corton, Pernand-Vergelesses and Ladoix. The wines are rich, vibrant and powerful – requiring time to show their full dimension and complexity.

The 2014 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, which is sourced from the Pernand side of the hill, has a precise bouquet with lemon peel, granite and smoky notes, almost Puligny-like in terms of its reserve. The palate is fresh and vibrant with good body, fine tension thanks to that keen line of acidity, with hints of orange peel towards the finish.

\$450**ALVINA PERNOT***Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru 2021***Cépage:**
Chardonnay

This project was born of two children of Burgundy, Philippe Abadie and Alvina Pernot : two wine lovers who wanted to create their own wine; a wine reflecting their vision of Burgundian *terroir*. They decided to launch their own business, buying for the most part grapes from the family domaine Paul Pernot & Ses Fils and trading grapes from Puligny-Montrachet Village or 1er Cru Les Folatières between other grapes from friends who were also grape growers.

Philippe Abadie has been a wine merchant for several years. He learnt to make wine with Burgundian winemakers and vinegrower friends. For Alvina’s part, she is a graduate in business law, wine business and wine technology and has worked in the family domain for four years, where she learned to make wine thanks to her father and grandfather.

Notes of citrus oil, freshly baked bread, crisp Anjou pear, white flowers and orange oil fill the Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, a medium to full-bodied, textural and incisive wine with a fleshy mid-palate allied with promising cut and grip. It's gorgeous.

\$580

ALVINA PERNOT

Puligny-Montrachet
'Les Chalumaux' 1er Cru 2020

Cépage:
 Chardonnay

Alvina Pernot is one of the most exciting new projects in Burgundy, although the Pernot name is very well known in Puligny-Montrachet. Alvina, you see, is one of the grandchildren of the famous Paul Pernot!

Most of the vines on the Pernot estate were planted by Paul in the 1950s and 1960s. The winery was among the first in Burgundy to use organic and sustainable farming practices, including the elimination of herbicides.

Where Paul Pernot remains a classic expression of white Burgundy, Alvina makes wines with a more contemporary style, farming at higher altitudes and picking earlier than most. The resulting wines are bright and vibrant in the glass with, as many critics note, wonderful approachability in their youth.

The Les Chalumaux 1er Cru comes from the oldest vines on the estate, planted in 1954. This has real complexity on the nose with intense malic fruit, fine minerality and light sea spray nuances. This is a very elegant, suave Puligny that gently unfolds on the finish, with hints of blackcurrant leaf and nettle.

\$200



ALVINA PERNOT

Puligny-Montrachet
'Clos de la Garenne' 1er Cru 2020

Cépage:
 Chardonnay

Why-oh-why couldn't we get more of this? (probably because only a couple of barrels were made, and the demand for Pernot wines is so great, but still...).

Alvina Pernot is such an exciting new arrival on the scene in the Côte de Beaune! Alvina is the granddaughter of Paul Pernot of Domaine Paul Pernot and cousin of Philippe Pernot of Domaine Pernot Belicard. After working for three years at her grandfather's Domaine, Alvina and her husband, Philippe Abadie, set up a tiny Domaine and Maison in Puligny-Montrachet. For the debut 2018 vintage, Alvina Pernot used no new oak, with all wines aged on their lees, in used barrels, until they were racked for bottling.

"Clos de la Garenne" sits above "Champ Gain" in Blagny, bordering Saint Aubin. This plot sits at a high altitude and has 50-plus-year-old vines.

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Clos de la Garenne is very pretty, bursting with aromas of citrus zest, white flowers, crushed chalk and hazelnuts. Medium to full-bodied, ample and satiny, with lively acids and a long, saline finish, it's already drinking well.

\$200





JEAN-CHARLES FAGOT

Chassagne-Montrachet 2021

Cepage:
Chardonnay

The Fagot (fah-ZHOH) family has been located in the small village of Corpeau since 1860. Just outside Chassagne-Montrachet, it is located near some of the most prestigious vineyards in the Cote de Beaune, so it would be fair to say that wine is in the family's blood. Jean-Charles is part of the 5th generation of Fagots in the area and the third generation to own vineyard acreage in Chassagne-Montrachet.

On his estate vineyards, Jean-Charles employs *lutte raisonnée*, a method of growing in which chemical intervention is employed only when necessary. The wines are vinified traditionally and naturally, utilizing oak foudres and 12-14 month long aging periods in the Fagot cellars.

Jean-Charles' Chassagne is all made from estate fruit. It is lovely, with a mouth-watering, almost vibrant, finish. Bright and wide, with citrus and pear notes.

\$189



DOMAINE LEFLAIVE

Puligny-Montrachet 2019

Cepage:
Chardonnay

We are pleased to offer a selection of wines from Puligny-Montrachet's famous Domaine Leflaive, which is certainly one of the finest white burgundy producers!

The Leflaive family's roots in the region date back to 1717, but the wines rose to prominence under the stewardship of Joseph Leflaive. When Anne-Claude Leflaive took the reins in 1990, she eschewed herbicides and chemical fertilizers and began experimenting with building healthy organic soil. She believed that biodynamic farming produced wines of greater complexity and purity, a sentiment that was supported by the winery's growing fame. Today Domaine Leflaive is entirely biodynamic and includes ten hectares of premier crus and five hectares of grand crus.

A ripe, cool and pure nose possesses a lovely array of pear, white peach and subtle acacia wisps that are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. There is both good volume and richness to the utterly delicious and seductively textured flavors that manage to possess a beguiling refinement on the clean and dry finish that offers very good persistence and especially so for a villages level wine

\$395

DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE

Beaune 1^{er} Cru 'Les Reversees' 2015

Cépages:
Chardonnay

Kansas City Native Mark O'Connell is the sole remaining American to own vineyard land, or a Domaine in Burgundy, who actually makes wine (although other Americans own land there as an 'investment').

Beaune is a village that dates back to the Roman times and archaeological evidence supports the plantation of vines around the town at that time. Rich in premier cru designation, some 75% of the cultivation boasts this status.

This is one of 2 of Clos de la Chapelle's premier cru white wines (Pernand Vergelesses 1er cru Sous Fretille being the other) and comes from a vineyard that also produces excellent red premier cru wines. Mark owns a mere .25 hectares (about .6 of one acre) on vines that average 25 years of age.

A pale golden color overlays a fresh, white peach and stone fruit mid-palate. This is a refreshing wine, one suitable for lighter meat and poultry dishes, or just for savoring with friends.

A terrific value in Premier Cru white Burgundy!

\$115





DOMAINE LEFLAIVE

Puligny-Montrachet 1^{er} Cru 'Clavoillon' 2019

Cépage:
Chardonnay

While the growing conditions in 2019 were very different from 2018, the end result was that both vintages are absolutely stellar.

Sadly, one of the differences is that 2019 was a much smaller harvest than 2018...made all the more sad because of just how stellar the 2019s are! For both red and white wines, 2019 is truly a classic vintage.

Allen Meadows, one of the foremost Burgundy experts in the world was effusive in his praise, saying 'An overtly floral suffused nose displays notes of pear compote, citrus confit and subtle spice wisps. There is excellent vibrancy to the attractively textured medium weight flavors that also exude a refreshing salinity on the citrusy, dry and notably more complex finish that is perceptibly firmer. This should age well.'

We only have 2 bottles of this lovely wine, due to the fine vintage. Get this while you can.

\$450



The legendary, and gone too soon, Anne-Claude Leflaive

DOMAINE LEFLAIVE*Bienvenues-Batard-Montrachet 2018***Cépage:**
Chardonnay

Bâtard Montrachet is located at the point where villages of Puligny Montrachet and Chassagne Montrachet converge. It borders the Bienvenues Bâtard Montrachet vineyard and is right below Montrachet. It is exposed to the sun from the east, and sits on a terroir composed of chalky soil. It is also the largest of the five Grands Crus. Over time, this once uncultivated hill (Montrachet means 'barren mount' in French) has become a mythical place for lovers of great white wines.

Domaine Leflaive has been entirely a family domaine since its creation. Brice de La Morandière, great grandson of the founder, Joseph Leflaive, represents the fourth generation at the head of the domaine. In 2015, after an international career in industry, he succeeded Anne-Claude, pioneer in biodynamics. It is with the same philosophy of respect for the great terroirs, humility toward the forces of nature, and relentless pursuit of excellence in viticulture and in winemaking that the domaine will continue to grow in the future.

The 2018 Bienvenue-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru has a terse, stoic, delineated bouquet with scents of wet limestone and sea spray, just a slight menthol note developing with aeration. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity. A very pretty, elegant Bienvenue that reveals hints of blood orange and sour lemon on the precise, persistent finish.

This is a simply a gorgeous Bienvenue, and one of the finest wines on our list.

\$1,900

LUCIEN LE MOINE*Batard-Montrachet Grand Cru 2019***Cépage:**
Chardonnay

In two decades of work, Lucien Le Moine has become one of the most talked about Burgundy producers, making some of the most sought after wines from the region. The approach is extreme – two people, together doing everything by hand, working with a dazzling array of Burgundy's great terroirs.

If money were no object, this might be the wine that we drank every night. Sadly, even if that were the case, so little is made of this wine (just 1 barrel), it would not last us long! Thus is Mounir Saouma at his very best.

Bâtard-Montrachet borders Montrachet on the west, and is typically a fatter, more open and more exotic wine than Chevalier-Montrachet, with less grip and a more flowery, honeyed richness.

Wisps of secondary fermentation aromas are prominent enough to mask the nuance of what are clearly ripe fruit nuances. More appealing are the more intense and powerful bigger-bodied and tautly muscular flavors that terminate in a compact, austere and very serious finish that leaves no doubt that this is built-to-age.

**\$1800****WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

Bâtard-Montrachet is an appellation in the Cote de Beaune granted for white wines. The appellation is limited to a single grand cru vineyard which is located between the communes of Puligny Montrachet and Chassagne-Montrachet, in the Cote D'Or escarpment. Bâtard-Montrachet is one of Montrachet's five great cru vineyards on the Cote de Beaune.

Bâtard-Montrachet is considered the best in the world when it comes to the expression of Chardonnay which is often backed by wine enthusiasts.

The name derives from the Medieval legend that the Lord of Puligny divided his land between his eldest son (le chevalier, the knight), his daughters (les pucelles, the maidens) and his illegitimate son (**le bâtard, the bastard**):

Chevalier, Bâtard and Les Pucelles became three different plots within the commune of Puligny-Montrachet.

**BENJAMIN LEROUX***Bourgogne rouge 2020***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Every year we look forward to the Bourgogne rouge from Benjamin Leroux. Every year we sell out of it way to fast!

The 2020 vintage was an exceptional one in Burgundy; although initial concerns were that the weather might have been too warm, the wines have turned out to be well-balanced. They are showing very forward in their youth, but will certainly still benefit with some more time.

Benjamin's Bourgogne comes from a blend of parcels from the Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Santenay, Beaune, Ladoix, Savigny-lès-Beaune (and sometimes Fixin, depending on the vintage).

Super ripe and sappy, with dense concentrated raspberry, strawberry and boysenberry notes mixed with cassis and cherry, with clove and pepper notes beginning to emerge.

With value being an all-too-hard-to-find prospect in Burgundy anymore, the Leroux Bourgogne rouge offers a tremendous experience.

\$62**GAELE & JEROME MEUNIER***Mercury 1^{er} Cru 2015***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

In 2005 Gaëlle and Jérôme Meunier rented their first parcel of vines and so embarked on their path together. The parcel comprised just under two acres in the commune of Bouzeron, and they sold the harvest to the *négoce*. At the time, Gaëlle was busy as a mother—a son came in 2005; twins arrived in 2006—while Jérôme was busy carefully adding several parcels in Mercury to their stable of vines. It wasn't until 2007 that they made and bottled their own wine.

What Gaëlle and Jérôme look for in wine is purity of fruit. This comes from two parcels, each with a surface of about two-thirds of an acre, and each with an average vine age of 60 years. They prune these vines diligently in order to get good ripeness so that they don't have to chaptalize (sometimes they do, but more often than not they don't). Fermentations are spontaneous, aging in barrel is a short eleven months, and only about 10% new wood is used for their village Mercury.

A savory take on Burgundy.

\$87

LUCIEN LEMOINE*Vosne Romanée 'Aux Champs Perdrix' 2019***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Mounir from Lucien LeMoine typically produces only 1 barrel from this small vineyard, and it is incredibly sought-after by those 'in the know.' That has as much to do with Mounir's incredible skill at *elevage* as it does with this incredibly special vineyard.

You see, Les Champs Perdrix is located directly above La Tâche and is a vineyard with an enviable position in Vosne-Romanée.

2019 was a brilliant, classic vintage in the Cote d'Or, and this wine is definitely made for the long-haul.

This is somewhat restrained, at first, and almost as spicy with its cool, airy and pure aromas of plum, dark cherry and jasmine tea. There is excellent vibrancy to the utterly delicious middle weight flavors that possess fine detail on the youthfully austere finale. This will continue to get better and better.

Decanting highly recommended.

**\$400**
**THE HIERARCHY OF BURGUNDY:
VILLAGE, PREMIER CRU AND GRAND CRU**

The classification structures in Burgundy differ fundamentally from those in Bordeaux. In Burgundy, there are 4 different classifications: District, Commune (or Village), Premier Cru (often abbreviated to '1er Cru') and Grand Cru. Typically, the higher up you go in the classification, the better quality the wine will be. And as you go up, the wines are almost always more expensive. The Café has invested heavily in Burgundy from a few great vintages, to ensure that we can offer our patrons delicious wines at all levels.

Burgundy's vineyard classification began in 1935 and completed in 1942. It's not consistent – some Villages have no premiers crus, while Montagny has a staggering 49! Overall the classification is sound, although there is some blurring of the lines between village level and premier cru, and between premier cru and grand cru.

Bourgogne rouge and Bourgogne blanc are good examples of a District wine.

Examples of Village wines include Meursault, Puligny Montrachet, Volnay and Gevrey Chambertin. The communal or village name may also be followed by the name of an individual vineyard.

There are only 33 grands crus. One anomaly is that neither Volnay nor Nuits-St-Georges has grands crus. That is because in the 1930s leading growers chose not to petition for them, for a range of reasons, including a reluctance to pay the higher taxes levied on grand cru wines.

It's hard to prove one site's superiority to another, as wine appreciation is subjective. But centuries of experience have enabled growers to determine a widely accepted hierarchy. With arguable exceptions such as Corton, grands crus have earned their reputation, although a mediocre producer is unlikely to deliver a great wine even from the most outstanding site.

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BENJAMIN LEROUX

Vosne Romanée 2015

Cépages:

Pinot Noir

Having created a name for himself as régisseur (general manager) of Domaine du Comte Armand in Pommard, Benjamin Leroux established, with English backing, a small négociant business based in Beaune since 2007.

The possibilities are very exciting for this exceptionally talented vigneron. Benjamin is a master at delivering purity of fruit alongside a seamless texture in his wines which have only the subtlest influence of oak.

The Vosne-Romanée is mainly from the Flagey-Echezeaux side – Les Violettes, Maizieres Basses – and the 2015 version is a big and generous wine.

The nose is offering rich and ripe fruit, profound and perfumed with a lovely spiciness. On the palate velvet and rich with plenty of stuffing ... a big wine on the riper side, still maintain it's balance and the result is quite seductive.

\$195



BENJAMIN LEROUX

Vosne Romanée 2017

Cépages:

Pinot Noir

Ben Leroux has produced a series of textbook wines in 2017, with clear differences between the terroirs and villages. This sees two-thirds whole-bunch fruit - the portion that comes from the Aux Ravioles *lieu-dit* close to the border with Nuits-St-Georges is destemmed - and is matured in one-third new oak. It's brimming with sappy, juicy red berry flavors and beguiling sweetness.

A lovely panoply of Vosne-style spice elements add breadth to the violet, red cherry and sandalwood-scented nose. The textured, caressing and velvety medium weight flavors possess a lovely richness that contrasts somewhat with the serious and firm finale.

This is a very fine villages-level wine from Leroux and well worth checking out.

\$175

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN

Vosne Romanée 1^{er} Cru 'Les Malconsorts'
2020

Cépage:
Pinot Noir



Les Malconsorts is an exceptional Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru. Albert-Bichot was fortunate to be able to purchase Domaine du Clos Frantin, and thus they now own 1.75 ha (4.3 acres) of this jewel, which is located close to legendary vineyards (less than 400 meters from Romanée-Conti and less than 600 meters from Richebourg!).

The name "Malconsorts" suggests that this land must once have been at the origin of disputes between "mauvais consorts" (bad partners), from the Latin word CONSORS meaning "associate, partner". These litigants would have had a common interest in a case. The prefix "Mal-" would indicate that they conducted themselves inappropriately over land that they owned jointly.

The 2020 has an enticing aroma of defined red berries and gentle spice. The palate displayed the level of silkiness and quality of tannins you only find in the best sites of Vosne-Romanée. It is powerful but controlled, with a sumptuous depth. This is unquestionably one of the best Premier Cru wines in Vosne-Romanée!

\$575

FRANCOIS LAMARCHE

Vosne Romanée 2014
'La Grande Rue' Grand Cru Monopole

Cépage:
Pinot Noir



Since 1797, on the prestigious terroirs of Vosné-Romanée and Vougeot, the vineyards have offered the Lamarche their precious fruit. From these terroirs, Domaine Francois Lamarche produces fourteen different wines, including la Grande Rue, a monopole of the Estate, one of the rare Grands Crus of Vosne-Romanée.

The Lamarche Estate, which now boasts a total surface area of nearly 28 acres, is a family firm, whose origin goes back several generations. All the wines have in common an elegance which combines exceptional balance and a delicate nose.

The palate is very well balanced with a keen line of acidity, nicely structured, perhaps just a little reticent right now, but maybe that means it will offer more once in bottle.

One has the sense of a La Grande Rue just biding its time. Decanting highly recommended.

\$750

75 BURGUNDY - CÔTE DE NUITS

LUCIEN LEMOINE

Grands Echezeaux Grand Cru 2019

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

The wine-growing village of Flagey-Échezeaux lies between Vougeot and Vosne-Romanée in the Côte de Nuits. The Échezeaux vineyards, for their part, divide the Clos de Vougeot vineyard from the Vosne-Romanée Premiers Crus vineyards.

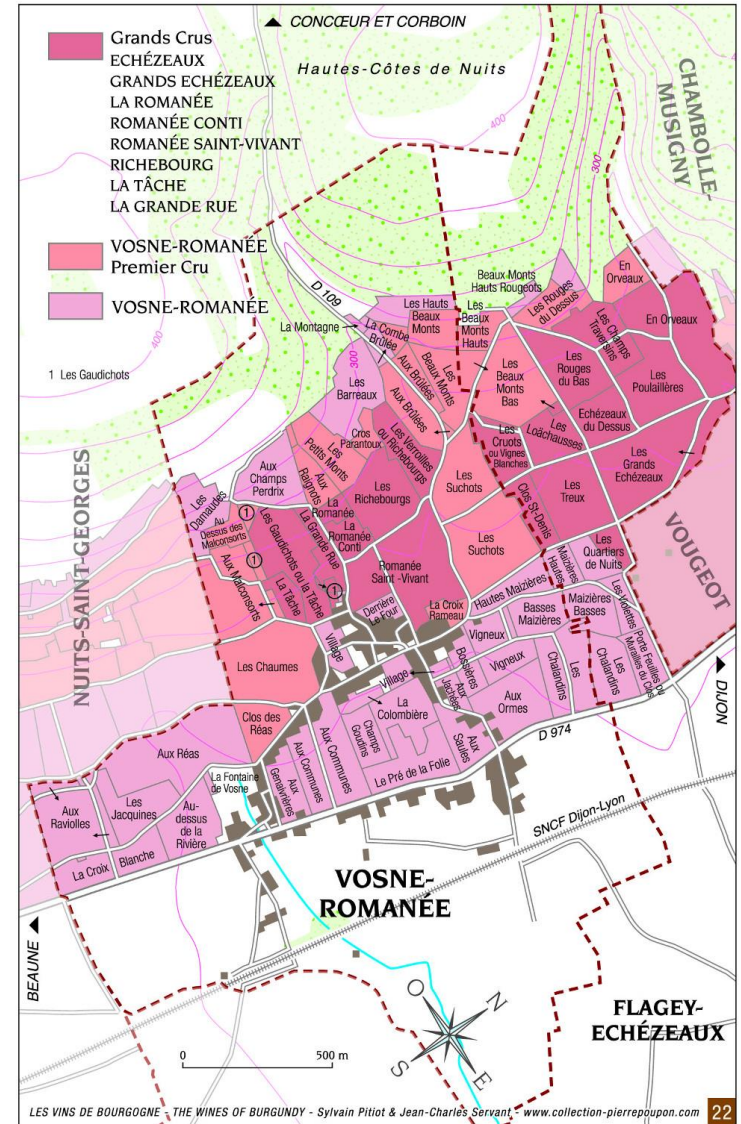
Like the Clos de Vougeot (from which they are separated only by a wall), Grands-Échezeaux and Échezeaux were founded by the monks of the abbey of Cîteaux and date from the 12th and 13th centuries. Their name derives from chesaux, a word of Gallo-Roman origin meaning a group of dwellings, presumably referring to an ancient hamlet.

The Wine Spectator praised this wine, and it garnered a 94 point rating from them: "Black cherry and blackberry compote flavors hold court in this fruit-filled red, gaining complexity from graphite and chalk notes. Firm and sinewy on the finish, where the dense tannins reign. All the components are there, but this needs time. Best from 2023 through 2043."

What a magnificent wine.



\$1500



BENJAMIN LEROUX*Gevrey-Chambertin 2015***Cépages:**

Pinot Noir

Benjamin Leroux is a negociant producing with a domaine philosophy, working with some of the finest appellations in Burgundy. This is a blend of four single vineyards within Gevrey-Chambertin: Les Seuvrees, La Justice, Billard and le Fourneau, with an average vine age of 50 years. The wines are native yeast fermented with 30% whole cluster, and are then aged for 18 months in barrel (20% new).

The 2015 Gevrey Chambertin Villages is Benjamin's main village cuvée that constitutes over 9,000 bottles. It has a crisp, blackberry and redcurrant-scented bouquet with a touch of black tea. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent tannin, fine acidity and poise with good depth on the fleshy finish.

A wonderful village-level wine from a fantastic vintage.

\$175**BENJAMIN LEROUX***Gevrey-Chambertin 2017***Cépages:**

Pinot Noir

Benjamin Leroux was very happy with his wines from 2017, describing it as the kind of vintage he would sign up for every year. He describes the reds as pretty, appealing and with body to support ageing, while highlighting the importance of lower-yielding old vines for serious ageing. He eloquently explains that there is no “black sheep” in 2017, that no village has underperformed.

The style of the vintage suggested to Ben that this year all his Gevrey should be in 228-litre barrels, having used a 3,500-litre *foudre* last year. He has also got his hands on some good quality old-vine fruit as well. Again, Ben has captured the succulence of the year but also found intensity. The Gevrey comes from four parcels, Les Seuvrées (below Charmes Chambertin) La Justice, Billard, and Le Forneau.

Delicate and dark fruited. An elegant restraint. Darkly scented on the palate, supple, suave texture, caressing and yet fresh.

\$175



One could say Bruno Clair is a vigneron's vigneron. His wines are loved worldwide by those lucky enough to know them. But truly impressive is the respect he garners within Burgundy, where his fellow growers consider him one of the greatest of their ranks. They admire his attention to detail in the vineyard, his organic practices (even if he doesn't bother with certification), and the long hours he and his crews put in. We are very proud to offer these wines – please turn the page to discover more about Bruno Clair!

Bruno Clair, originally of Domaine Clair-Dau, has impressive and extensive real estate in one of the world's most celebrated wine regions. Twenty-three hectares of Premier Cru, Grand Cru, village wine, red, white and rosé; the vineyards stretch far and wide throughout the Côte de Nuits. Marsannay, his most northern property and the only Burgundian commune entitled to produce rosé, is where Bruno sources Pinot Noir for his rosé and Chardonnay for his white wine. The remainder of his vineyards run the length of Gevrey Chambertin (where most of his wines come from), Morey-Saint-Denis, Pernand-Vergelesses, Corton-Charlemagne, Aloxé-Corton, Chambolle-Musigny, Vosne-Romanée and Savigny-lès-Beaune, all situated in prime locations. Together, this collection acts as an intonation of Bruno's style, whilst maintaining diversity and clarity in terroir. Bruno Clair symbolizes structure and grace and is deemed to become one of Burgundy's true greats.

In the cellar, along with his longtime oenologist Philippe Brun (*they have been called "the Batman and Robin of Marsannay"*), Bruno produces wines that are loved for their purity of expression. They show no ego or even style, but just seem to be true to the essence of each individual vineyard.

BRUNO CLAIR*Gevrey Chambertin 2014***Cépage:**

Pinot Noir

Bruno Clair, founded the domaine which bears his name in 1979. The domaine at that time included plots in Marsannay and Fixin, the Dominode vineyard in Savigny-les-Beaune, and a large plot lying fallow in Morey-St.-Denis – “En la Rue de Vergy,” however, he has substantially increased his holdings in the Cote d’Or.

Bruno Clair also maintains a rigorous selection of the best vines of pinot noir (and chardonnay, although his white wines are even harder to find than his red wines!), identifying those that produce small grapes with perfect ripeness. This selection also concentrates on finding vines that have a good resistance to diseases and are free from viruses, which has become more and more of an issue in Burgundy.

The Village-level Gevrey-Chambertin from Bruno Clair is precise and elegant, with an easy going bouquet with raspberry and crushed strawberry fruit. This is very pure, and is a lovely entry into the wines of Domaine Bruno Clair.

**\$175**

79 BURGUNDY - CÔTE DE NUITS

BRUNO CLAIR

*Gevrey Chambertin 'Clos du Fonteny'
Monopole 1^{er} Cru 2015*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

Born out of the old Clair-Dau estate, Bruno Clair's wings are spread widely over the Cote d'Or, covering nine appellations in total. Bruno, first and foremost, is a vigneron and has adopted an approach that involves back-breaking vineyard work and minimal intervention winemaking, using a mixture of large old wooden foudres and smaller barriques for the long slow ageing process.

A monopole (monopoly) of the domaine, this plot is located in the upper part of Les Fontenys, in the continuity of Ruchottes-Chambertin. Relatively poor soil, composed of white clay, with notable traces of limestone rock on the surface.

The palate is well balanced with sappy red berry fruit overlaying the fine tannins. It fans out towards the finish, offering enticing orange rind and blood orange notes that infuse the tart aftertaste. Lovely, just really lovely

\$359

BRUNO CLAIR

*Gevrey Chambertin 'Clos du Fonteny'
Monopole 1^{er} Cru 2017*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

We've heard that this particular 1er Cru Gevrey-Chambertin has become Bruno's favorite over the years. All the fruit comes from a Monopole (vineyard owned by one person/family) that has what the French call "white clay" which is actually light brown and full of tiny limestone pebbles. It's aged in oak for 18 months, 25% of which is new. The fruit is juicy, and generous with plenty of sensual layering of more savory notes but brings you right back to bright, come fetch me fruit.

The 2017 Gevrey-Chambertin Clos du Fonteny 1er Cru, which contains 40% whole bunch fruit, has a very detailed bouquet of crushed-stone-infused, minerally fruit; hints of incense and lavender emerge with time in the glass. The palate is fresh and vibrant right from the start, offering candied tart red fruit mixed with orange zest and citrus peel, wonderful definition and such vivacity on the finish that you will beg for another sip straight away.

\$327

BRUNO CLAIR

*Gevrey Chambertin 'Clos du Fonteny'
Monopole 1^{er} Cru 2019*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

Bruno Clair is one of, if not the, most well respected and sought-after producers in the region. His winery is located in Marsannay but he sources fruit from Gevrey-Chambertin, Chambolle-Musigny, Morey-Saint-Denis, and Vosne-Romanee in the Cote de Nuits, and from Cote de Beaune in the south, Aloxe-Corton, Pernand-Vergelesses, and Savigny-les-Beaune. So, this man knows his way around Burgundian winemaking and terroir.

The 2019 Gevrey-Chambertin Clos du Fonteny 1er Cru, a monopole of 0.67 hectares, has a tightly wound bouquet that opens with aeration: brambly red fruit mixed with light loamy and woodland scents. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, very mineral-driven with an almost flinty, stern and strict just like a Ruchottes on the finish. Excellent, but one for serious Burgophiles.

\$327

BRUNO CLAIR*Marsannay 'Les Longeroies' 2018***Cépage:**

Pinot Noir

A third-generation vigneron, Bruno Clair is the grandson of Joseph Clair, founder of the historic Domaine Clair-Dau. Bruno founded his Domaine from scratch with a vineyard in Marsannay, a rented plot in Fixin, the "En La Rue de Vergy" parcel in Morey-St. Denis and the Dominode vineyard in Savigny-les-Beaune. Over the past 33 years, Domaine Bruno Clair has grown to encompass holdings in Clos de Beze, Cazetiers, Clos St-Jacques, Vosne-Romanee, Clos du Fonteny, Chambolle-Musigny, Corton-Charlemagne, Pernand-Vergelesses, Aloxe-Corton and Gevrey-Chambertin Petite Chapelle.

Bruno does not use chemical fertilizers. Grapes are hand-harvested and selection is carried out primarily in the vineyards. Bruno firmly believes in a non-interventionist approach. Says Clair, "we are here to accompany the wines in their voyage, not impose our will."

This is a nice example of Marsannay. Lots of black and red berries, dusty earth, a nice animal/barnyard note on the nose. The palate is firm with the expected firm tannins, but overall well integrated and balanced.

\$120**BRUNO CLAIR***Marsannay 'Les Longeroies' 2019***Cépage:**

Pinot Noir

Bruno's Clair holding is mostly in the well-regarded Bas de Longeroies. Half of the vines are a century old and 30% of the fruit was fermented as whole clusters, before ageing two winters in cask (some new). The result is not your typical Marsannay, with lovely, ripe, forward red cherry fruit and plenty of aromatic depth. The structure of the wine is compact and firm, yet there is also great elegance and finesse. Fresh, lively and pure.

There is a lovely freshness to the cool and pure aromas of red currant, anise, violet and soft earth scents. The wonderfully sleek, intense and delineated middle weight flavors brim with minerality that also suffuses the youthfully austere and built-to-age finish.

This is going to need at least some patience and it should be well-worth the wait.

Decanting is highly recommended.

\$120



LA POUSSE D'OR

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru 2018

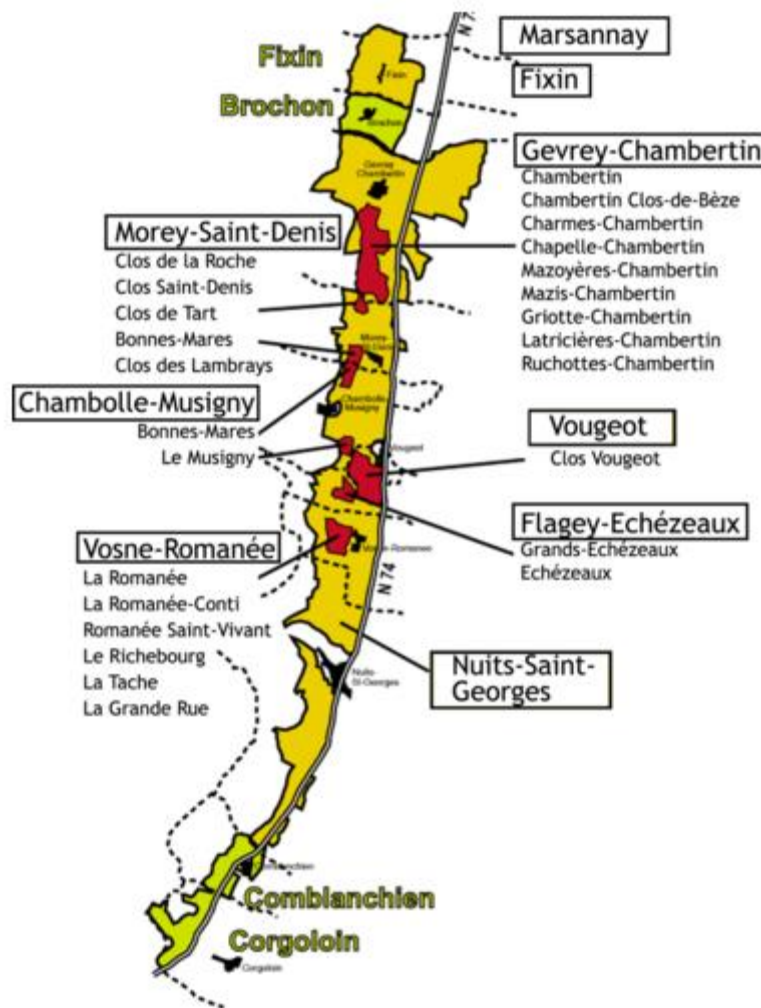
Cépages:

Pinot Noir

Arguably the finest, most prestigious Burgundy house in Volnay, Domaine de la Pousse d'Or has been in existence since the 1100s, when the Duchy of Burgundy held all the titles in the land. It was originally called Bousse d'Or or 'Golden Earth' in middle French, but over time the name evolved to its current iteration.

By the 19th century it had become part of a larger domaine which also encompassed other reputable properties as Romanée-Conti and Clos de Tart. But over time the domain fell into disrepair, a shame considering the potential for such regal winemaking it possesses. It was eventually Gérard Potel who resurrected Domaine de la Pousse d'Or to its glory. In 1964 Potel acquired the domaine through a marriage to the then owner's niece.

This has a similar fruit profile to the Pousse d'Or's Bonnes Mares bottling, but with more prominent earth elements along with a hint of the *sauvage*. The mouthfeel of the big-bodied flavors is quite simply gorgeous with excellent underlying tension, lovely delineation and subtle minerality, all wrapped in a youthfully austere finish.



Grand Crus of the Côtes de Nuits

\$960

BENJAMIN LEROUX

Clos-St-Denis Grand Cru 2016

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

This is one of the Côte d’Or’s least tasted Grand Cru vineyards thanks to its small size and fragmented ownership – there are sixteen owners who mostly have tiny holdings.

For a number of years, Leroux has been making an outstanding example of this grand cru from a 50+ year old parcel of vines (planted in 1962) smack bang in the heart of the vineyard, in the original Clos Saint Denis lieu-dit. This 0.13 hectare parcel has always been managed organically, never having seen any herbicides or pesticides. As per last year, this was entirely destemmed and aged in 1/3 new barrels. Leroux always refers to this grand cru as “mon chouchou”. In other words, his favorite.

The 2016 Clos St Denis has an upfront, quite bold bouquet with vibrant red berry fruit, crushed strawberries, orange sorbet and a touch of earl grey. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, well-judged acidity, fleshy and quite opulent towards the pure finish. This is gorgeous Clos Saint-Denis from Benjamin Leroux!

\$550



CHATEAU GRIS

Nuits-St-Georges 1^{er} Cru 2016

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

The Château Gris castle was built in the 18th century in the middle of its 3.5 ha (8.6 acre) walled vineyard. After the vineyards were destroyed by phylloxera, the roof of the castle was covered with grey slate although tiles are the traditional material used in Burgundy. The people of Nuits-Saint-Georges therefore began to refer to it as Château Gris (grey castle) and the name stuck. Further to a court ruling in the 1920s, the name “Château Gris” was allowed to prevail over the name of the place (lieu-dit) "Les Crots" where the vines are planted

Elegant and classy on the nose, this Premier Cru features aromas of black fruit with fine, delicate floral notes. On the palate, the body has a great deal of sucrosity but with beautiful structure, and well-integrated oak that does not overpower the fruit. Pleasing sensation of freshness on the finish.

Try it with duck fillets or roast pork or rich cheeses such as Epoisses.

Each year we buy as much of this wine as we can. It is never enough!

\$170



BENJAMIN LEROUX

Nuits-Saint-Georges 'Les Allots' 2017

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

Maison Benjamin Leroux in Beaune was started in 2007 by Benjamin Leroux, one of the most admired young winemakers in Burgundy. Leroux became winemaker and manager at prestigious Domaine Comte Armand starting in 1999, when he was not yet 30, but he wanted his own label. With several investors he started his negociant business by taking over a section of the 19th century Jaboulet-Vercherre winery in Beaune. He owns and leases vineyards, and makes one monopole, Volnay Premier Cru Clos de les Caves. Since Leroux is often working with very small leased parcels, he makes several dozen wines, often ending up with a single barrel of less of particular cuvee!

While Les Allots is classed only as a village wine, many people feel it should be a 1er Cru. When tasting this wine from Leroux, we are inclined to agree!

Medium-light bodied, with bright strawberry and cranberry notes, with a beautiful undertone of spring flowers.

\$140



BENJAMIN LEROUX

Chambolle-Musigny 2017

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

This is a stunning, beautiful wine. Benjamin Leroux produced 13 barrels of this Chambolle-Musigny in 2017; three of them come from the Les Cras and Chatelots Premier Cru vineyards! Then there's a 1955 parcel of Les Véroilles, a site that's perhaps the highest villages vineyard in Chambolle, sitting on *terres blanches* above Bonnes Mares. Given that Leroux was unable to make any of this wine in 2016 due to frost, we are thrilled to see such a triumphant return!

Using 50% whole bunches and 20% new oak, Leroux has sculpted a seductive Chambolle that opens with a measure of controlled, fleshy flamboyance before segueing into something more suave, sappy and refreshing.

The nose is pretty and perfumed, with wild berry aromas. The palate is clean and energetic, with real intensity and purity. This is a focused, precise and mineral expression of Chambolle-Musigny.

\$185



JACQUES-FREDERIC MUGNIER

Chambolle-Musigny 2017

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

The Mugniers originally hailed from Dijon. A successful business was their platform to purchase in 1863 the Château de Chambolle-Musigny; an impressive residence, which happened to come with 4 hectares of vineyards – modest in size, though not reputation.

The softly spoken Frédéric Mugnier is the current caretaker of the house and Domaine. Frédéric, a 50-ish, ex 'offshore engineer' and latterly commercial pilot who both studied and was raised in Paris, is the fifth generation to head the family domaine. Frédéric's first vintage was 1985, as prior to that, the family's vineyards had been leased to Faiveley.

This wine is not the same *assemblage* as usual for Mugnier's Chambolle-Musigny. The Combe d'Orveaux and Les Plantes vineyards, which normally make up the village Chambolle suffered losses from the frost, so there is a lot of Musigny in this wine. The wine is dense and spicy with dark fruits and very good length — very different character from the usual village Chambolle here. There's smoothness and power here — the proverbial iron fist in a velvet glove!



\$240

JACQUES-FREDERIC MUGNIER

*Nuits-Saint-Georges 1^{er} Cru
'Clos de la Maréchale' 2017*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

Tasting the wines of Domaine JF Mugnier is always a thrill. Is there anyone better at capturing a wine's power without losing its finesse than Jacques-Frédéric?

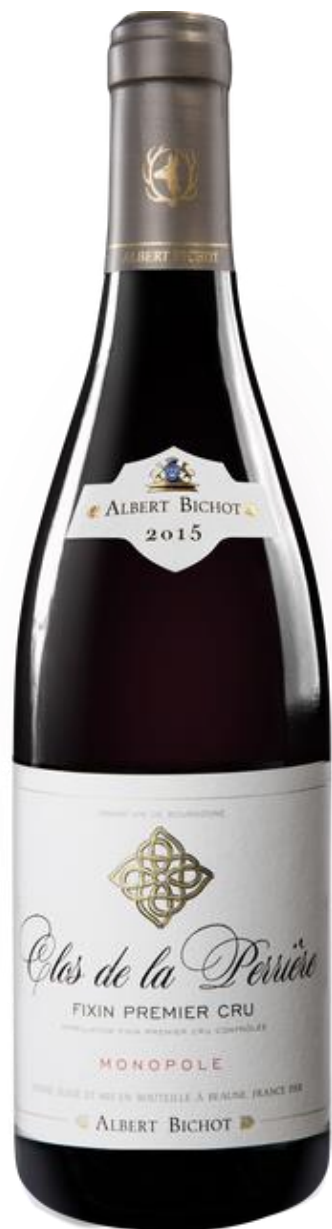
At over 9ha Clos de la Maréchale is the largest vineyard with one owner in the Côte d'Or (according to Mugnier's website). The vines in the clos are roughly 45-years old and are planted at the southern end of the Côte de Nuits in Premeaux. The vineyard is planted to both Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, and in 2017 there's no better bargain for a Premier Cru of either!

The 2017 Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Clos de la Maréchale is a little more introverted, unwinding in the glass with a reticent bouquet of red berries, raw cocoa, sweet soil, green tea tones, game and dried flowers. On the palate, it's medium to full-bodied, with good depth at the core and a more structured, introverted profile than the Chambolle that preceded it. The only missing ingredient here is a little time.



\$205

85 BURGUNDY- CÔTE DE NUITS



ALBERT BICHOT

Fixin 1^{er} Cru 'Clos de la Perrière' 2019

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

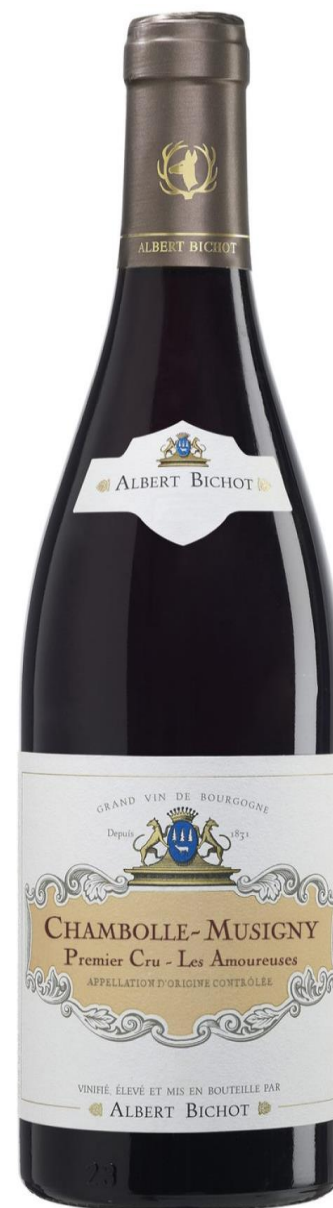
In the Spring of 2021, we had an opportunity to taste barrel samples from Albert-Bichot of their much anticipated 2019 vintage wines. There were certain wines that we knew would be exceptional, but we had not had their Fixin before. This ended up being one of our favorite wines of the lineup!

There is no Grand Cru-ranked vineyard in Fixin yet, although thanks to its exceptional climate and its ideal exposure, it has already been compared to its neighbor, Chambertin!

The nose features notes of woodsmoke, fresh cream, black cherry and wild strawberries. The palate continues in this creamy vein, presenting dense, ripe cherry fruit on a finely textured palate pervaded by freshness. Ample and very fine, it offers silky tannins. Its mineral hints remind the characteristics of the soil it comes from. The natural maturity of the fruit is balanced by the freshness of this terroir of altitude. On the palate, the aromas are complex, with Morello cherry, licorice and juniper berry.

We have a feeling we are going to wish we had bought a *lot* more of this.

\$165



ALBERT BICHOT

*Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Amoureuses'
1^{er} Cru 2013*

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

Any time Café des Amis can purchase top flight library wines (that have been perfectly stored), we do so. And such is the case with this wonderful 2013 vintage Chambolle-Musigny 'Les Amoureuses' from Domaine Albert-Bichot.

Of the 25 climats in Chambolle-Musigny, Les Amoureuses is undoubtedly the greatest. It is considered by many to be the equal of the 2 Grand Crus in Chambolle, Bonnes Mar and Le Musigny. However, Les Amoureuses shows the more elegant, filigree style of Chambolle, as opposed to the muscular characteristics of Le Musigny.

A fireworks-in-a-glass nose is strikingly spicy with its gorgeously layered aromas of lilac, plum, violet and exotic tea scents. The silky and intensely mineral-infused medium weight flavors are shaped by ultra-refined tannins on the firm and impeccably well-balanced finale that goes on and on. This is a very classy effort that should also be relatively accessible young but amply reward longer-term bottle ageing.

Outstanding.

\$590

ALBERT BICHOT

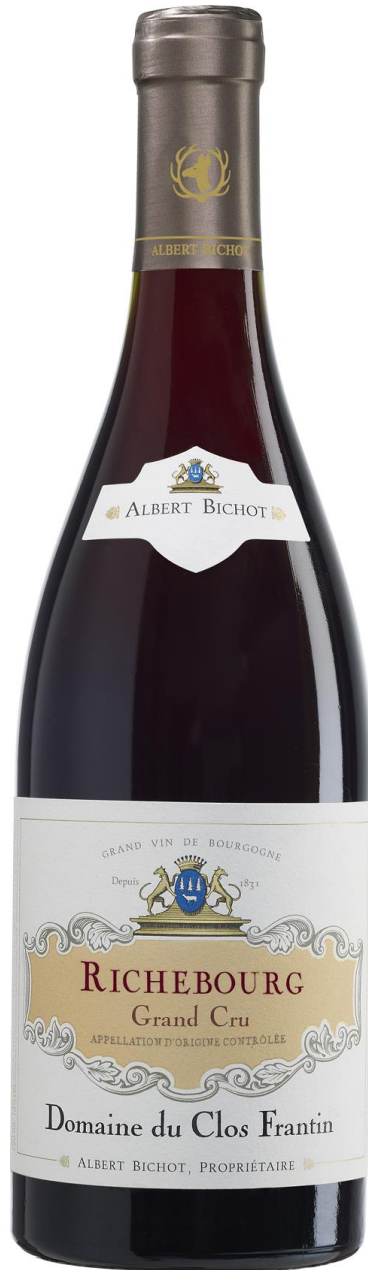
Richebourg Grand Cru 2019

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

At the heart of the commune of Vosne-Romanée, “Richebourg” is without a doubt one of the most reputed and sought-after Grand Crus in the Côte de Nuits. The appellation covers only 8 hectares (20 acres), with an annual production of merely 40,000 bottles. The hilliness of the nearby landscape formed by the Concoeur valley and the vines' proximity to the parent rock are also determining factors for the terroir's influence on this Grand Cru.

Albert-Bichot owns the Domaine du Clos Frantin, and many of their Bichot’s greatest wines are produced here.

A wonderfully elegant and very spicy nose also features plenty of floral character on the aromas that combines notes of exotic tea, sandalwood, dried orange peel, lilac, violet and red and dark currants. There is ample richness to the broad-shouldered, concentrated and intense flavors that exude a fine bead of minerality on the textured, powerful and superbly long finish. This is a complete knockout, and a special wine to savor with roasted red meats, mushrooms and mild cheeses, such as Comtes.



\$2,500

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN

Clos-de-Vougeot Grand Cru 2017

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

With its 50-hectare (123.5 acre) walled vineyard, 80 owners, a terroir discovered 9 centuries ago by Cistercian monks, a renowned brotherhood of wine enthusiasts (Confrérie du Tastevin)... Clos-de-Vougeot showcases everything that Burgundy is all about! But, let us not forget that Clos-de-Vougeot is first and foremost a highly unique terroir. Domaine du Clos Frantin’s plots connect the bottom to the top of the Clos. This allows combining the fruitiness, which is very typical of the lower part of the vineyard, with the structure that is characteristic of the upper part.

An attractively layered and fresh nose merges aromas of red and dark berries with those of earth, leather and a whiff of spice. There is excellent verve to the equally fresh large-scaled flavors that also possess solid mid-palate density before terminating in a youthfully austere and sneaky long finish that is very firmly structured. Even so, the supporting tannins are finer than usual and overall, this is more refined than it typically is.

Decanting recommended.



\$480



In the late 1980s, Mounir Saouma's visit to a Trappist monastery in the Middle East led to a prolonged stay during which he worked in the monastery vineyards and first learned to make wine. He subsequently studied Viticulture and Oenology in Montpellier, followed by six years working in Burgundy, other areas of France, and California. During this time he became fascinated by traditional methods of viticulture, vinification, and aging. In 1999 he decided to push to the extreme all he had seen and experienced, and with his wife Rotem created a small cellar dedicated to the philosophy of making wines of purity and typicity. Lucien Le Moine in a decade of work has become one of the most talked about Burgundy producers, making some of the most sought after wines from the region. The approach is extreme – two people, together doing everything by hand, working with a dazzling array of Burgundy's great terroirs.

The couple produces one to three barrels from each Cru. All wines are aged entirely on their lees. Gentle *batonnage* is done a few times a month, less or more depending on the vintage, and the wine is never racked during this process. The cellar is naturally humid and very cool, which pushes malolactic fermentations late into summer. The natural CO₂ produced during these long fermentations allows Mounir to use little SO₂ (it should be noted it is best to decant all Lucien Le Moine wines as they can have some residual CO₂). Once malolactic fermentation is complete, he and Rotem follow each barrel, tasting several times a month. Bottling is done by hand via gravity feed when the wine is ready, always after a full moon (when atmospheric pressure is favorable). No fining, filtration, or addition of sulfur takes place at bottling.

“Saouma likes to describe his cellar as a library of Burgundy's finest terroirs. That's as good a description as any for these uniformly outstanding, compelling wines.”

- **Antonio Galloni, Vinous Media**

LUCIEN LEMOINE

Nuits-St-Georges 1^{er} Cru 'Les Vaucrains' 2015

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

The Les Vaucrains (*a term that represents infertile land*) vineyard sits at the heart of the Côte de Nuits.

The Premier Cru Vaucrains is located in the south part of the Nuits-Saint-Georges vineyard, north-west of the Saint-Georges, with an east exposure. Mounir Saouma notes that he considers Vaucrains to be deserving of promotion to Grand Cru status.

The 2015 Les Vaucrains has a knockout nose combines blackberry, violet, bitter chocolate and licorice. Intensely flavored and sharply delineated but very backward today, with the dark berry and cocoa powder flavors lifted by a violet topnote. Finishes with a firm tannic spine and terrific energy and grip.

This is a powerhouse of a wine, and its structure means that we would Highly recommend a lengthy decanting of the wine for best enjoyment!

**LUCIEN LEMOINE**

Clos-St-Denis Grand Cru 2011

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

This is one of the smallest production wines that is produced at Lucien Le Moine, a wine of elegance and nuance that we prize over power.

It is truly remarkable what Mounir and his wife as a tiny 2-person operation have been able to accomplish since 1999, and we were pleased to find that we still had a few bottles of this wine in our cellar!

Sexy aromas of strawberry, mulch, gunpowder and dried rose accurately convey this grand cru's terroir. Then utterly silky yet sharply delineated on the palate, offering superb inner-mouth perfume to the flavors of strawberry and smoky minerals. Finishes smoky, saline and very long, spreading out on the palate to excite the taste buds. Already wonderfully expressive.

\$325

\$415

89 BURGUNDY - CÔTE DE NUITS

LUCIEN LE MOINE

Chambertin Grand Cru 'Clos de Beze' 2015

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

A vineyard sitting between Mazis-Chambertin and Chambertin, Chambertin-Clos de Bèze is on the same limestone as Montrachet - you can almost think of it as a wine from Chassagne, a white wine with red color. It has almost an essence on the palate, it is supple, long, and without a lot of body or tannin. A sublime wine.

Discreet aromas of raspberry and flowers convey incredible purity and lift. Utterly seamless, perfumed, youthfully taut wine with palate-caressing red berry and crushed stone flavors. Offers a rare combination of fruit intensity and finesse. Perhaps most impressive today on the silky, slowly mounting finish, which features compelling sappy, salty persistence. The limestone soil gives this wine a quality that reminded one of Montrachet! This splendid Clos de Bèze really leaves the taste buds quivering.

Like the Nuits-St-Georges 'Les Vaucrains,' this is very much built-to-age yet with a hearty decanting, it can be enjoyed on the younger side.

\$1200



LUCIEN LE MOINE

Chambertin Grand Cru 'Clos de Beze' 2019

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

Chambertin's Clos de Beze is considered one of the top two Grand Crus of Gevrey Chambertin, along with Chambertin itself. The Grands Crus are iconic Pinot Noir wines; powerful, virile, complex and intense.

The Clos de Bèze first appears in the history of the Côte de Nuits in the year 640 AD as a monastic property. In 1219 it passed to the canons of Langres, who retained ownership until the French Revolution (1789). The name Chambertin has been used since the 13th century and once shared imperial approval with Clos de Bèze - Napoleon would drink nothing else. Its boundaries have not changed since the Middle Ages. In recognition of their similarity, the 7 Climats adjoining those of Chambertin and Clos de Bèze attach the name Chambertin to their own names (except in the case of Clos de Bèze where the name Chambertin comes first).

An overtly floral nose includes notes of rose petal, lavender, violet and plenty of spice on the elegant red and dark currant scents. The super-sleek and equally intense larger-scaled flavors also brim with minerality on the attractively textured, youthfully austere and gorgeously long finish. This is impeccably well-balanced and a wine that should also reward extended bottle aging.

\$1430

LUCIEN LEMOINE*Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru 2015*Cépage :
Pinot Noir

***Mounir Saouma of Lucien LeMoine
and Guillaume Hanriot of Café des Amis***

In two decades of work, Lucien Le Moine has become one of the most talked about Burgundy producers, making some of the most sought after wines from the region. The approach is extreme – two people, together doing everything by hand, working with a dazzling array of Burgundy’s great terroirs. In the late 1980s, Mounir Saouma’s visit to a Trappist monastery in the Middle East led to a prolonged stay during which he worked in the monastery vineyards and first learned to make wine. He subsequently studied Viticulture and Oenology in Montpellier, followed by six years working in Burgundy, other areas of France, and California. During this time, he became fascinated by traditional methods of viticulture, vinification, and aging. In 1999 he decided to push to the extreme all he had seen and experienced, and with his wife Rotem created a small cellar dedicated to the philosophy of making wines of purity and typicity.

Inviting aromas of raspberry, minerals, smoked meat and dried rose, along with a cool licorice note. Juicy, intense wine with excellent definition and lovely inner-mouth floral lift. Still a bit youthfully medicinal but already conveys an attractive texture and a harmony of elements. Finishes juicy, spicy and quite long, with suave, fine-grained tannins and a repeating suggestion of medicinal reserve. Saouma was not the only producer this fall who noted that Charmes-Chambertin has benefited substantially from global warming. “Not too long ago, Charmes typically had a greenness as well as underripe tannins,” he said.

**\$555**



BRUNO CLAIR

Bonnes Mares Grand Cru 2018

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

Bonnes Mares is a Grand Cru vineyard and appellation shared between the Chambolle Musigny and Morey-Saint Denis communes in the Côte de Nuits region. It's home to several prestigious Burgundian producers that craft richer and more robust Pinot Noir wines than its neighbor, Le Musigny.

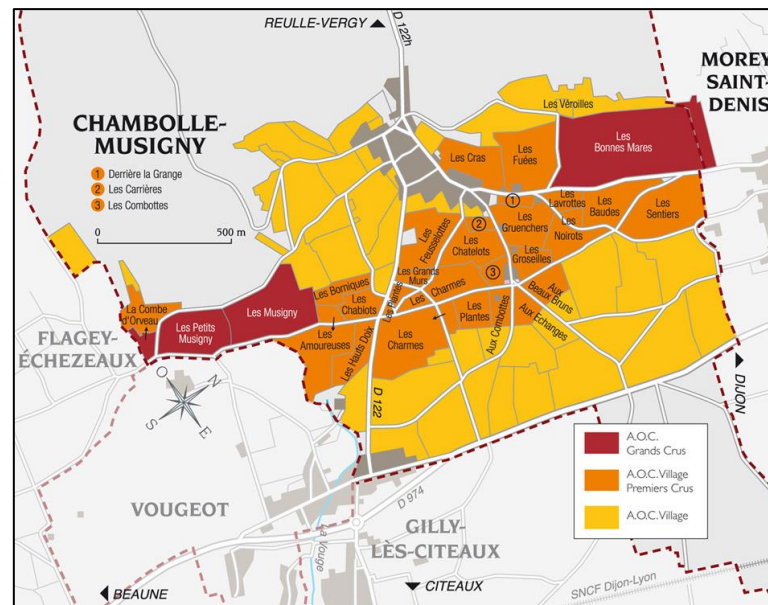
Bruno Clair is now the only producer with vines on the Morey-St-Denis side of the Grand Cru, owning a total of 1.6ha. Picking started here as early as August 24th in 2018 and the result is apparent in the freshness and balance of wine. Made from a combination of red and white soils, it's a fine, floral, almost lacy expression of the terroir with added freshness and texture from 30% whole bunches and 40% new wood.

The 2018 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru reveals red fruit, violet petals and a light oyster shell note, with fine delineation and superb focus. The palate is detailed and precise, just a faint touch of dark chocolate in the background with the mineral-driven finish delivering the sapidity to tempt you back for another sip.

Decanting highly recommended.

\$880

“There are many ways to the recognition of truth, and Burgundy is one of them.”
- Isak Dinesen





DOMAINE DE LA ROMANÉE-CONTI

Échézeaux Grand Cru 2014

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

There are names that every budding wine enthusiast learn as they delve deeply into the world of wine. Every great wine region seems to have such a name—call it an icon—which somehow transcends more than just the place, but becomes a beacon of the region and is regarded as that which represents its essence.

In Burgundy, that name is without a doubt, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti.

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti dates from 1869, but the vineyards that it owns outright — the ‘monopole’ Grand Cru of La Tâche and Romanée-Conti — go much further back. Romanée-Conti was acquired by the Abbey of St-Vivant in 1232, and in 1631, it changed hands again — along with La Tâche — and became owned by the Croonembourg family. Ownership of the vineyards would shift several more times over the next three centuries (including forcible seizure during the French Revolution). But throughout their history, Romanée-Conti and La Tâche have always been prized and as a result, fawned over to a level that is quite possibly unmatched elsewhere in the world.

Since its founding, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti has produced the most consistently excellent Pinot Noir in the world. Holdings in the Richebourg, Romanée-St-Vivant, Grands Échézeaux and Échézeaux Grand Cru vineyards have further solidified the domaine’s standing. The 2013 vintage of the winery’s most coveted wine — from the domaine’s namesake vineyard, Romanée-Conti — has an average price in the United States of \$13,396. Older vintages sell for even more.

A wonderfully complex nose features a broad array of spice elements with those of plum, violet, sandalwood and Asian-style tea that are also trimmed in soft wood nuances. There is good punch to the refined, cool and pure medium-bodied flavors that possess better concentration on the balanced, persistent and youthfully austere finale.

We would highly recommend decanting of this great wine.

\$3,000

DOMAINE DE LA ROMANÉE-CONTI

Romanée-St-Vivant Grand Cru 2009

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

In 2021, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti released a small amount of library wines from their cellars to the market. The opportunity to purchase a more mature wine from the Domaine was irresistible, and we were able to procure a scant one bottle of the incredible 2009 Romanée-St-Vivant.

Note that we say ‘a more mature wine.’ The best wines from this famed winery can last a century... and the winery itself goes back centuries. The very first vintage of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti was released in the year 1232. At the time, the grapes came from the Le Cloux de Saint-Vivant vineyard, which are now the current La Romanée-Conti and La Romanée-Saint Vivant plots. Since the classification system had not yet been introduced at that time, the vineyards had not yet been given grand cru status. This system was not introduced until several centuries later.

This is a very sought-after vintage, and one which garnered huge praise. From Antonio Galloni of *Vinous*:

‘The 2009 Romanee St.Vivant is wonderfully complete. The combination of power and elegance is breathtaking as layers of fruit flow across the palate in stunning style. Hard candy, flowers, mint and dark red berries build to the dramatic, explosive finish. In 2009 the Romanee St. Vivant is a wine of considerable volume and textural depth, but it will require a good many years for those qualities to come through fully.’

We would highly recommend decanting of this great wine.

\$5,000



DOMAINE DE LA ROMANEE-CONTI*Romanée-St-Vivant Grand Cru 2018***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Domaine de la Romanee-Conti (DRC) is Burgundy's most famous estate, producing all grand cru wines from 25 hectares of vines. The wines are made in extremely limited quantities and generate some of the highest prices of any wines in the world. DRC produces the grands crus Romanee-Conti, La Tache, Richebourg, Romanee-Saint-Vivant, Grands Echezeaux, Echezeaux, and Montrachet, of which both Romanee Conti and La Tache are monopoles. Co-proprietor Aubert de Villaine has farmed the vineyards organically since 1986 and has adhered to traditional, natural winemaking practices. Only natural yeasts are used, and aging is done in 100% new oak.

Fermented with 90% whole clusters and aged in 20% new wood, it's paler than its stablemates, with refined red berry fruits, focused, mineral-edged acidity and a racy, chalky finish. Transparent winemaking from a site that often produces the domaine's most elegant wine. It is very well balanced and pure, and feels structured, almost Richebourg-like, toward the persistent finish. This is a very serious Grand Cru

The 2018 Romanée-Saint-Vivant Grand Cru has a detailed bouquet of dark cherries, blueberry and pressed iris, an undertow of sea spray and petrichor emerging with time. Less floral than previous vintages, it is nevertheless extremely well focused. The palate is medium-bodied and you are immediately struck by the harmony of this wine. Elegant and discreetly spiced toward the finish.

We would highly recommend decanting of this great wine.

\$4,000**DOMAINE DE LA ROMANEE-CONTI***Romanée-St-Vivant Grand Cru 2019***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Domaine de la Romanee-Conti – Burgundy's (some would say the world's) greatest wine! On the hills that embrace them, they occupy the most favored sites in the heart of the Côte de Beaune and Côte de Nuits, where the soils and weather conditions are the most auspicious. It gives them a special ability to absorb and finesse the climatic vagaries with which the region is not lacking and allows them to attain, year after year and more than any of the other vineyards that encircle them, a complete and harmonious ripening.

The Grands Crus, the exceptional vineyards that enjoy vast respect and which represent in both red and white wines, account for barely 1% of the surface and less than 1% of Burgundy's production. To craft the world's greatest wines is the mission the Domaine sets for itself, from generation to generation, guided by a restless pursuit of excellence to effect and perpetuate the means to make their Grands Crus, the greatest in Burgundy.

The 2019 Romanée-St-Vivant Grand Cru wafts from the glass with breathtaking aromas of raspberries and strawberries mingled with bergamot, Indian spices, peonies and rose petals. Full-bodied, vibrant and perfumed, it's finer boned than the more muscular Grands-Échézeaux, with a bright spine of acidity and beautifully refined tannins, concluding with a long, penetrating finish. Striking for its purity and elegance, my handwritten notes include the phrase "pure sensuality."

We would highly recommend decanting of this great wine.

\$5,000

95 BURGUNDY - CÔTE DE BEAUNE

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE — FINDING VALUE IN BURGUNDY

At this moment in time, Savigny-les-Beaune provides the very best bang for your buck in all of Burgundy. This is an area where the finest producers in Burgundy produce wine, yet the prices here remain far under that which neighboring regions command.

In addition, Decades ago, much of the Savigny production was sold to négociants — merchants — who often blended it together and sold it as generic Savigny-lès-Beaune, rather than bottling cuvées separately to display the diverse terroirs that distinguish many of the better vineyards.

In addition, the red and white grapes were often vinified together. Yes, plenty of those "red" Savignys also had some percentage -- 15% say -- of Chardonnay or Pinot Blanc or Pinot Gris or some mixture of the three. So the wine was lighter, and therefore less prized.

So, even though Savigny-les-Beaune has some of the finest Premier Cru vineyards in the Cote de Beaune, reputations have a way of lingering, and, thanks to this history, Savigny-les-Beaune is still very much treated as second tier.

This is a complicated area to truly know; there is a river that runs through it, and there are wonderful vineyards on both sides of the river, but the different exposure and soils can produce very different wines. And, of course, each winemaker has ideas about how the wines should be made, which further broadens the range of the wines from Savigny-les-Beaune.

We are pleased to offer you wines from Sauvigny-les-beaune from Simon Bize (where Chisa Bize has kept Simon Bize operating at a high level since taking over the domaine from her husband, Patrick Bize, who died in 2013,) Bruno Clair and Benjamin Leroux!



SIMON BIZE

Savigny-les-Beaune 2017

Cépage:

Pinot Noir

Café des Amis proudly offers many wines from Simon Bize in our Burgundy list. The reason is that the winery's range is so diverse and incredibly well-made that from one night to the next you can drink wines that will consistently fascinate you.

They are also some of the most profound wines made in what most consider a secondary appellation in the Côte d'Or. Because of this appellation's modest status, it is a wonderful place to look for value (within the context of Burgundy). What makes the difference between Bize and others is that these wines perform at the highest level in Burgundy, despite the appellation (see the 'Finding value in Burgundy' text alongside this wine).

This has a delightful bouquet of red currant wild strawberry pressed rose petals and a touch of violet. This is one of the most aromatically charming wines from Bize. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and quite tensile from the start.

\$95



BENJAMIN LEROUX
Savigny-les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru
'Les Hauts Jarrons' 2017

Cépage:
 Pinot Noir

Although Les Hauts Jarrons is not one of the best known vineyards in the northern part of the Cote de Beaune, several highly renowned domaines make Premier Cru wines here. And Leroux's wine here is our favorite!

The 1er Cru Haut Jarrons shows wonderful sophistication. Beautiful color here with great depth. Although the wine is a touch tight at the moment, with air the quality of tannins lifts, and once it has opened in the glass, this lengthens into a lovely wine, with a great play between acid and ripe tannins with lovely harmony.

The 2017 Savigny-lès-Beaune Aux Jarrons 1er Cru has a pure, attractive floral bouquet with touches of blue fruit tincturing the red. The medium-bodied palate delivers supple tannin and much more matière than the village cru. The finish is silky smooth and seductively juicy.

Plenty to enjoy here!

\$160



SIMON BIZE
Savigny-les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru
'Aux Vergelesses' 2017
 2017

Cépage:
 Pinot Noir

This is always one of our favorite wines from Simon Bize. Aux Vergelesses is a steep slope of sandy marl soils with a fair bit of limestone, as well. The vines here are fairly old, having been planted progressively from 1939 to 1954. As with all of the wines from the Domaine, viticulture is Organic and Biodynamic. The wine is always bottled on a waning moon and a root day. How much this has to do with how delicious it is, we cannot say, but clearly Chisa Bize knows what she is doing!

The 2017 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Vergelesses was 20% destemmed this year as Chisa Bize struggled to fit all the grapes in the fermentation tank! Offering up aromas of sweet berry fruit plums rose petals and spices it's medium to full-bodied ample and satiny with a fleshy mid-palate and attractive balance.

Delicious, and just the thing to have with pork or duck!

\$160

BRUNO CLAIR

Savigny-les-Beaune 1^{er} Cru 'La Dominode' 2014

Cépages:
Pinot Noir



La Dominode belongs to the 1er cru les Haut-Jarrons. It is at the heart of this special *lieu* (place). The yields are naturally low but regular because the vines were planted in 1902. The exposure to the east is ideal and the ground is a mixture of stones and clay. Bruno Clair has been vinifying la Dominode since 1979 and it has undoubtedly the most consistent vines of the domaine - always low yields and beautiful maturity of the grapes. The quality and the age of the vines contribute to this consistency.

There are, naturally, annual variations according to the vintage and the weather, but the variations are fewer than in other vineyards. The color is always deep, tannins are full and rich.

Reticent aromas of black cherry, dark raspberry and licorice. Juicy and tightly wound; less sweet than the foregoing wines from the Côte de Nuits, with the black fruit and menthol flavors showing a touch of leather.

\$165

BENJAMIN LEROUX

Blagny 'La Piece Sous les Bois' 2016

Cépage:
Pinot Noir



Sitting astride the famous white wine villages of Meursault and Puligny, Blagny is a little-known, all-red village. A vineyard in Blagny's jurisdiction planted to white is labeled with the name of one of the better-known neighbors, with the choice of putting either the general "Blagny" or the specific vineyard on the label.

Blagny has often fallen behind its more popular neighbors, as vigneronns see more benefit to planting Chardonnay and letting the notoriety of these other appellations sell their wine. As a result, only 10% of the vineyards in the limits of Blagny village are actually planted to Pinot Noir. Benjamin Leroux is convinced of this terroir's qualitative potential for Pinot Noir as well as Chardonnay, acquiring more land here in 2017 in order to make more of this cuvée.

Deeper scents of redcurrant and dark cherry. Offers a lovely texture, and a distinct herbal quality from the whole cluster fermentation that Leroux uses.

\$135

BENJAMIN LEROUX

*Pommard 2015
1^{er} Cru 'Rugiens-Hauts'*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

2015 is Benjamin Leroux's first vintage of this appellation, and what an amazing year in which to start!

Notwithstanding the Clos des Epeneaux, Leroux has always said there is only one 1er cru that would tempt him back to Pommard; Les Rugiens. A new long-term contract with the same owner as the Volnay Caillerets offered sees Leroux back in his old stomping ground, once again working the same iron rich red clay soils he did at Comte Armand. In particular Leroux's vines – two small parcels of 25 and 90 year old vines – lie at the foot of Rugiens Haut, the part of the vineyard that is considered by many to produce Pommard's greatest wines, Clos des Epeneaux excepted. Needless to say, Leroux's return to Pommard is a successful one.

'Seriously good,' might be an understatement. It's a beauty.

\$270

BENJAMIN LEROUX

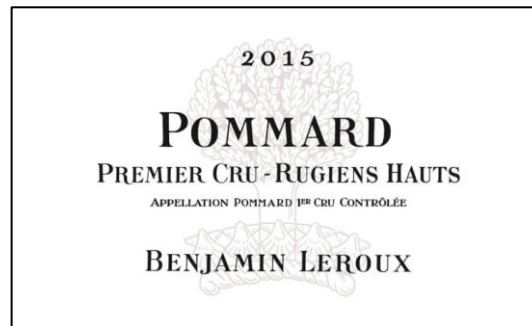
*Pommard 2017
1^{er} Cru 'Rugiens-Hauts'*

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

Benjamin Leroux's third vintage of this wine shows finesse that comes from greater time working with a particular terroir. Benjamin speaks of his efforts to shift the styles of the Pommards from rustic and super tannic to more perfumed and supple, and the 2017 Rugiens-Hauts certainly demonstrates that he is capable of making such wines from here!

The 2017 Pommard Les Rugiens-Haut 1er Cru includes 50% whole bunch fruit this year, and Leroux uses indigenous yeast fermentations. It has a mineral-driven, sea-cave-scented bouquet that is racy and vivacious. The palate is medium-bodied with plump, pure black fruit, a pitch-perfect line of acidity and a rich, generous finish that is going to make a lot of people happy. Excellent.

\$255





Dom. Clos de la Chapelle is a new name of an old domaine, in the heart of the village of Volnay. Originally founded by Victor Boillot in 1865, the reputation of the Clos de la Chapelle dates back to the 19th century, with Louis Pasteur writing regularly to Boillot requesting bottles of this exceptional wine.

After nearly 150 years in the Boillot family, the domaine was purchased by Kansas City native Mark O’Connell, a life-long Burgundy lover, and one of very few Americans to own vineyard land in Burgundy. With the recent acquisition of 9 additional vineyards in the Côte de Beaune, the Domaine now comprises about 4 hectares, all designated 1er or Grand Cru. Mark’s vision is to produce the best expression of terroir inherent in each tiny parcel.

DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE

Beaune 1^{er} Cru ‘Champs Pimont’ 2015

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

A cool, pure and attractively fresh nose features notes of red and black cherry along with hints of spice, earth and violet. There is very fine complexity to the more vibrant and mineral-driven flavors that display a saline hint on the admirably persistent finish.

Lovely stuff and worth enjoying over the course of an evening.

\$117

DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE

Corton-Rognet Grand Cru 2015

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

The 2015 Corton ‘Rognet’ from Clos de la Chapelle is outstanding, offering up great purity to go with the depth, power and aging potential of the very best 2015s. The very promising bouquet offers up scents of black cherries, dark berries, roasted venison, dark chocolate, a superb base of soil, woodsmoke and cedar. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and tangy, with a rock solid core, impressive transparency, firm, ripe tannins, excellent focus and grip and a very long, poised and youthfully complex finish.

\$250

DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE

Pommard 1^{er} Cru ‘Grands Epenots’ 2017

Cépage :
Pinot Noir

A very small parcel, Mark’s 0.23 hectares have vines that are 25 years old and produce a crop with small berries and wines with strong structure. Deep ruby color with garnet hues, this is a wine a both finesse and power. Typical vintages can last for decades as the tannic structure and acidity provide exceptional aging potential.

\$180

DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE*Volnay 1^{er} Cru 'Clos de la Chapelle' 2017***Cépage :**
Pinot Noir

Kansas City native is the only remaining American who owns land in Burgundy who is actively making wines. Having him in Kansas City is remarkable, and our relationship with him has allowed us access to library releases from Clos de la Chapelle. The 2007 vintage pre-dates his ownership of the Domaine, but a small amount of the wine remains in his cellars.

This 1er Cru Monopole is one of the parcels that make up the appellation of Volnay 1er Cru "Le Village". The vineyard is 0.56 ha/ 1.4 acres, planted with 50 year old vines. The soil is primarily clayey limestone with white marl.

In Burgundy the term "Clos" refers to a vineyard that is enclosed within a stone wall. The soil here is of limestone and marl, and is very distinct from that of the Clos de la Bousse d'Or. There the soil is much redder, and a meter lower - perhaps explaining the wall as a retainer, and the division of the two vineyards.

An elegant bouquet, with aromas of very ripe berries and baking spices with a floral background. Lovely fullness on the palate, a supple and generous wine. Good tannic structure, with finesse and silkiness.

\$190**DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE***Volnay 1^{er} Cru 'Clos de la Chapelle' 2011***Cépage :**
Pinot Noir

This is one of the first vintages in Clos de la Chapelle's modern era, in which Mark had a hand in winegrowing. A lovely wine.

The Volnay appellation is found mid-slope in the Côte de Beaune, with Pommard to the north and Meursault to the south. Although there are no Grands Crus here, Volnay's 30 Premiers Crus are unmatched. Always appreciated for their finesse and beautiful bouquet, Volnays are often regarded as being feminine.

This is a fairly warm vineyard as it is quite small, with tall walls protecting it from cooling winds, and which reflect the sun's heat onto the vines. Such a microclimate generates early ripening and slightly lower acidities, yet here produces wine with elegance and good structure for aging. The organic and biodynamic practices being practiced here will also insure a lower pH.

Picked at the end of August, this vintage reflected a warm growing season. Rain just before harvest increased the volume so the wines have an elegance and purity. The mid-palate is very refined and the finish is complex with secondary flavors now showing.

\$250**DOMAINE CLOS DE LA CHAPELLE***Beaune 1^{er} Cru 'Les Taillepieds' 2019***Cépage :**
Pinot Noir

Clos de la Chapelle is one of the most storied and celebrated vineyards in Burgundy, and today comprises the crown jewel of the Domaine Clos de la Chapelle, a 4-hectare estate in the Côte-de-Beaune that is owned and managed by American Mark O'Connell.

The reputable 1er Cru of "Taillepieds" takes its name from its steep slope and the sharp stone on which the winegrowers "cut their feet" when working in the vines. Some of the parcels that Mark works with are upwards of 60 years old.

This is one of the most impressive sites in the Cote de Beaune, and outperforms its 1er Cru status.

The 2019 Taillepieds shows excellent volume, intensity and richness to the concentrated medium-bodied flavors that evidence focused power on the compact, youthfully austere and built-to-age finish. This excellent mineral-driven effort is textbook Taillepieds.

\$150

NICOLAS POTEL*Santenay 1^{er} Cru 'Clos Rousseau' 2015***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Nicolas Potel has chosen an old path for his wine making journey. Only organic farming, indigenous yeast and the Biodynamic calendar to follow; Nicolas allows the wine to make itself. The result is naked, pure, and unabashedly Burgundian. His vision and this sight are a match made in heaven.

Clos Rousseau is one of the Cote d'Or's southernmost Premier Cru vineyards and are generally quite weighty, showing earthy, rustic characters of dried herbs and red fruit.

**\$112****DOMAINES DES COMTES LAFON***Volnay 1^{er} Cru Santenots du Milieu 2015***Cépage:**
Pinot Noir

Domaine des Comtes Lafon has been in the Lafon family since 1865. Dominique Lafon took over the domaine in 1983. It is comprised of approximately 14 hectares situated in the communes of Volnay, Monthélie, Chassagne-Montrachet, and of course, Meursault, where the domaine and its monopole vineyard Clos de la Barre are located.

The 2015 Santenots du Milieu from Comtes Lafon is another absolutely stellar young bottle of Volnay. The bouquet is pure, focused and utterly classic in its mix of black cherries, cassis, dark chocolate, gamebird, a complex base of dark soil tones, woodsmoke, cedar and a pungent topnote of violets. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and rock solid at the core, with great transparency, fine-grained tannins, excellent acids and a very long, complex and perfectly balanced finish. Classic juice that may well rival wines from this vineyard such as the 1978, 1989, 1993 and 1999 here in the fullness of time.

**\$375**



NICOLAS POTEL

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru 'Les Valozieres' 2015

Cépages:
Pinot Noir

The Aloxe-Corton appellation covers 119 ha on the territory of the town of Aloxe-Corton and 8.5 ha on that of Ladoix -Serrigny, at the beginning of the Côte de Beaune. Nearly half of the vineyard area is classified as Grand Cru and no less than 17 classified Premier Cru. There are two types: those located on the Pernand-Vergelesses side and for the one that interests us The Valozières bordering the Grands Crus from below.

From a parcel of 50-year plus vines. The scent is of sweet, ripe, red summer fruits. The palate is juicy and sensuous with a touch of toasty oak and mocha that fills out the fruit-filled flavours. Minerality is in evidence too and grippy tannins complete a vinous picture that promises well for the future. Bursting of berries with hints of salt, stone and chalk. Bitter cherry notes and carries a long lingering finish. A lovely wine from a brilliant vintage!

\$140



NICOLAS POTEL

Corton Grand Cru 'Les Renardes' 2017

Cépage:
Pinot Noir

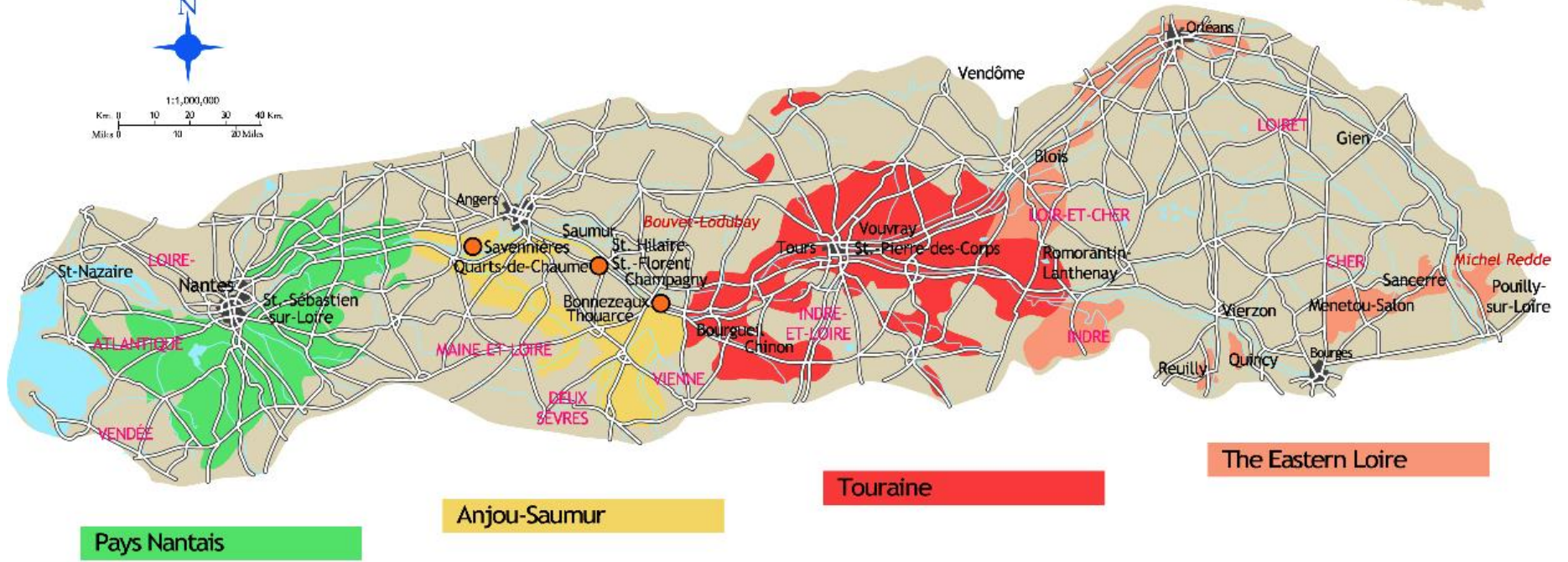
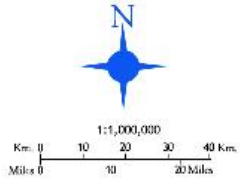
Nicolas Potel decided to set up his own *négociant business* after the death of his father in 1996 and the subsequent sale of Domaine Pousse d'Or which his father had been managing.

The Nicolas Potel label became an excellent source of predominantly red wines, from Bourgogne Rouge to the Grands Crus of the Cote de Nuits. His hallmark has been to make wines which respect both their vineyard provenance and the style of the vintage while remaining attractively priced.

This has been a star selection in the cellar since the first vintage (2009). It is a beautiful wine: not too deep and dense with a little touch of oak and a fresh finish. Very stylish, this is a lovely wine.

\$275

The Loire Valley and Muscadet



DOMAINE DES BAUMARD

Quarts de Chaume 1967

Cépage:
Chenin Blanc



Domaine des Baumard’s Quarts de Chaume is renowned the world over as the greatest example of this small, 110 acre vineyard (of which Baumard owns 15) acknowledged as the “Grand Cru” of the Loire Valley. The sweet wines from this subregion of what is known as the Coteaux de Layon are from vineyards planted along the Layon river. The perfectly exposed vineyards allow the Chenin Blanc grape to ripen perfectly in most years, often enriched by the development of botrytis. Always long-lived, in great vintages this wine can be almost immortal, improving for decades.

This bottle of 1967 Quarts de Chaume was recorked in 2002. It offers a singular bouquet of caramelized citrus, white truffle, browned sugar and honey. Deep, ripe, unctuous and powerful, yet with vibrant acidity, it’s an incredible dessert wine. This is a rare and incredible bottling, and we were pleased to be able to source 6 bottles of it for the restaurant!

\$400

DOMAINE DES BAUMARD

Savennières Clos du Papillon 2016

Cépage:
Chenin Blanc



Domaine des Baumard produced some of the finest examples of Savennieres, including the single-vineyard "Clos du Papillon" from a site along the Loire notable for the presence of soapstone in its slate soils. Jean Baumard and now his son Florent are universally regarded as the finest winemakers in the appellation. Their wines are among the most unique and rewarding in the world: honeyed, dry whites of unmatched concentration, perfume, and longevity.

Captivating with a lively quinine streak leading the way, followed by Jonagold apple, honeysuckle, green almond and plantain notes that race through the pure, mineral-driven finish. Intense, with enough in reserve to warrant cellaring.

This wine is approaching peak maturity now, and is perfect for dishes with fish and chicken.

\$99

DOMAINE DE VAUFUJET*Vouvray 2020***Cépage:**
Chenin Blanc

The Vouvray vineyards are situated upstream from Tours in the North of the Loire Valley. The vine roots overhang the cellars built in the rock nearby, which are called “Caves Troglodytes.” The caves are old quarries, dug into the limestone to build the castles and houses of the region. A constant temperature of 13C lets more than three million bottles ripen in the cool, dark tranquility.

The wine gives a sweet sensation with a dry finish on the palate. Pine and fennel notes lead the way, followed by modest apple and quince fruit. The finish features a lightly buttered edge. A concentration of rich flavors develop fruity aromas such as fresh grapes and ripe quinces with slight honey notes. Vouvray wines can be kept for many years.

**\$10/glass****\$37****PAUL CHERRIER***Sancerre 2021***Cépage:**
Sauvignon Blanc

Stéphane Cherrier, the Sauvignon master at the helm of Domaine Paul Cherrier, is part of a new generation of young winemakers who are changing the face of Sancerre.

Domaine Paul Cherrier is located in the tiny, picturesque village of Verdigny, just northwest of the town of Sancerre. Stéphane’s hilltop parcels are planted on rocky Kimmeridgian limestone, that ancient ocean bed underpinning the Grand Cru vineyards of Chablis, the hillsides of the Pays d’Aube, and the (predominantly western) portion of Sancerre. This terroir produces wines of incredible length, purity, and minerality. The amount of clay in the soils varies by parcel and elevation, providing Stéphane with richer, fruitier Sauvignon Blanc and fruit that is more linear and mineral.

Light bodied and dry, with bright minerality and subdued notes of grapefruit and passionfruit, with high acid, round edges, and a long mineral finish.

**\$53**

ARNAUD LAMBERT

Saumur 'Clos de Midi' 2021

Cépage:
Chenin Blanc

Founded by Arnaud Lambert in 2017, this namesake estate unites Lambert's certified organic Brézé and Saint Cyr en Bourg vineyards under one label.

The Brézé hill is considered one of the wine world's two finest sites for dry Chenin Blanc, the other being Savennières. Lambert's Clos du Midi – from a cool site near the top of the Brézé hill – casts a pale straw-gold hue from the glass and classic Saumur Blanc aromas of Anjou pears, dried apricots, chamomile, and perfumed yellow limestone. Brisk on the attack, the wine presents a mouthful of pear-driven Chenin fruit framed by smoky limestone minerals and nervy acidity. Pleasant notes of quince and honeycomb emerge on the wine's long pear and apricot-tinged finish followed by an electric acidic undercurrent and a dusting of lip-coating limestone minerals.

Pair the wine now and over the coming three years with freshwater fish preparations, aged chèvres, dishes featuring mushrooms, and game. This is grand cru dry Chenin for a song!

\$42



THIBAUD BOUDIGNON

Savennieres 'Clos de la Huttee' 2018

Cépage:
Chenin Blanc

From time to time, we taste a wine that stops us in our tracks. A wine that makes us pause to examine it more fully. A wine that reminds us why we love wine in the first place. The Clos de la Hutte exemplifies this.

Perhaps that should be no surprise; Thibaud Boudignon is already at the top of his game, and is one of the most exciting winemakers in the Loire Valley. His wines are always special.

Clos de la Hutte is a remarkable vineyard; a former monstary that was planted in 2011 to Chenin Blanc. The soils are primarily schist, but there is also a lot of sand, with lends a fine, mineral-driven feminine characteristic to the wine.

This is an aromatic and intense wine loaded with flavors of wet stones, citrus rind, tart pear, schist, and gun flint. Sharp, clean, and insanely easy to drink.

Sunshine in a glass. We refer to this as 'the special wine.'

\$149



FAMILLE JOLY*Coulee de Serrant 2019***Cépage:**
Chenin Blanc

Considered one of the greatest dry white wines in France, the Clos de la Coulée de Serrant has its own Appellation and is entirely owned by the Joly family. A remarkable expression of the land, this Chenin Blanc is produced from 7 hectares of vineyards aging 40 to 50 years-old. With steep slopes and southern exposure, the soil is composed of shale outcroppings (schist) interspersed with quartz. The site on which the vines are planted has remained under vine since 1130!

Unparalleled in intensity and complexity, the energy of the property is bottled in this iconic and limited offering that will develop for years to come.

By itself, this is a fascinating wine, but with food is where the Coulee de Serrant really shines – try it with roasted white meats, funky cheeses, fried foods, and braised dishes.

**\$290****PASCAL LAMBERT***Chinon 'Les Terrasses' 2017***Cépage:**
Cabernet Franc (Organic)

Vignerons since 1987, Lambert converted their property to organic in the early 2000s and certified organic by Ecocert in 2005. Beatrice and Pascal decided this was not enough. They moved into Biodynamics and, like many of their neighbors in the Loire, follow the dogma of Nicolas Joly. They use plant foliage between rows and add no sulfur to their wines. Les Terrasses, 100% Cabernet Franc, displays a wild musky nose, dense fruit, and the terroir of calcareous clay atop the region's famous *tuffeau* (a chalky limestone).

The Lamberts, both descended from a long line of winegrowers, have easily established themselves as top producers of Chinon, making honest, authentic wines that are reference points for the region. The wine shows ripe black fruit with notes of blueberries, minerality, and herbs.

This is classic Loire Valley Cabernet Franc.

**\$57**

BERTRAND GALBRUN

Bourgueil 'Amicale' 2020

Cépage:
Cabernet Franc

Bourgueil, a sleepy commune situated on the right bank of the Loire River about midway between Angers and Tours, was granted AOC status legally in 1937, but red wine production dates back centuries. Here we see the mainstay grape, Cabernet Franc, produced in its apogee. Clay-limestone soils unique to this part of the Loire, called Tuff, feature lots of fine white calcareous content. Another soil commonly seen in Bourgueil, graves, is an alluvial gravel of small pebbles. The best wines render these soils purely, dustily, a quality that gives Loire reds their allure. Bertrand Galbrun is a young winemaker with a passion for clean, simply-spirited wine.

Bertrand's first cuvée comes from low yields (25-30hh) of biodynamically worked 30yo vines planted in Restigné (sand and gravel soils with limestone at depth). Fermentation is carried out by gentle infusion with just three or four pumping overs during two weeks, ageing for ten months in cement. This is a lovely *'vin de soif'*, it has a clear mid-red color with cherry glints, and attractive red fruits on the palate.



\$53

ARNAUD LAMBERT

Saumur 'Clos Mazurique' 2017

Cépage:
Cabernet Franc

While soft-spoken and humble, Arnaud Lambert is helping to drive a revolutionary movement in the appellations of Saumur and Saumur-Champigny. The goal is to re-discover each individual terroir and its potential through organic viticulture and less-is-more, precise winemaking. This is particularly important considering 70% of the surface area in Brézé and Saint Cyr belongs to the cooperatives, where branding and blending prevail, and mass-produced crémants dominate.

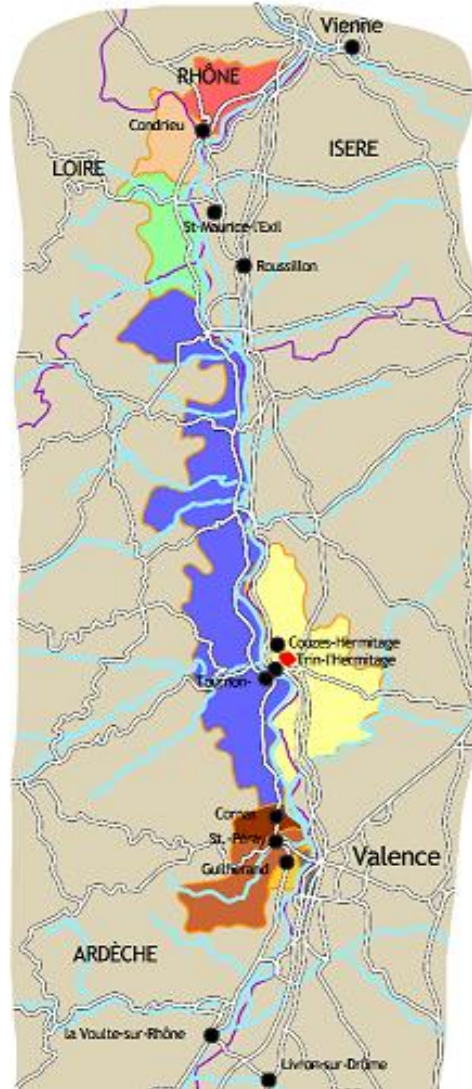
Brézé is a unique site due to its relatively high elevation and eminently nuanced geological profile. The significant presence of tuffeau, (a porous, chalky limestone also used in the construction of much of the Loire's Renaissance architecture) results in finely mineral Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc.

Lighter-bodied, with graphite notes underscoring the crushed plum and blackberry flavors. Racy acidity gives this a lift midpalate, bringing out mouthwatering wild rose hints through the richly spiced finish.

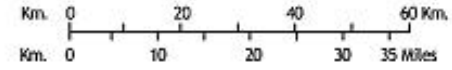


\$38

Northern Rhône



1:1,090,000



- Côte Rôtie
- Château Grillet
- Condrieu
- Condrieu / St-Joseph
- St-Joseph
- Hermitage
- Crozes-Hermitage
- Cornas
- St.-Péray
- Coteaux du Tricastin

JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE 'CIRCA'*Saint-Joseph blanc 2020***Cépages:**
Roussanne

Wine growers in the northern Rhône since 1491, the Chave family (currently helmed by Gérard and son Jean-Louis) represents 16 generations of unbroken lineage committed to the production of some of the finest Syrah, Marsanne, and Roussanne on the planet.

The vineyards for Circa are located in Mauves on granitic slopes. This white St Joseph differs from the white Hermitage in that the soil of white Hermitage (clay and limestone) gives softness and suppleness to the wine whereas the granite soil expresses a wonderful minerality which perfectly accompanies food and gives an additional sense of vivacity.

Unusually for a Saint-Joseph blanc, this wine is based on a patch of very old vines Roussanne, which gives the wine so much more character than most other white wines from this appellation! It offers tropical fruit, rose water and honeyed citrus characteristics in a medium-bodied, fresh, lively style.

\$63

E. GUIGAL*Hermitage 'Ex Voto' 2015***Cépages:**

Marsanne, Roussanne

Ex Voto is the top Hermitage produced by Guigal, although it is not produced every year. Rather, it is reserved for exceptional vintages only!

The *terroir* for the 2 vineyards from which the fruit for Ex Voto is sourced, is comprised of rocks, small stones, clay, sand and limestone soils. The vines are old, ranging in age from 50 to 90 years of age; the blend is 90% Marsanne and 10% Roussanne.

Highly perfumed scents of ripe pear, nectarine, lemon rind, honey and pungent flowers, with a smoky mineral overtone building steadily. Offers palate-staining orchard and pit fruit flavors that are complemented by suggestions of toasted nuts and vanilla. Weighty yet distinctly energetic as well, betraying no excess fat. Delivers emphatic mineral thrust and repeating florality on the strikingly long, penetrating finish, which leaves a suggestion of dried pear brandy behind.

**\$560****M. CHAPOUTIER***Hermitage 'Chante Alouette' 2018***Cépages:**

Marsanne

Always an interesting wine. Made from 100% Marsanne hand-harvested from three different vineyards: Le Méal, has old fluvio-glacial alluvial deposit soil with numerous deposits; Les Murets with granitic soils and alluvial deposits again granitic, Chante-Alouette is set on loess soil with a fine layer of clay and limestone. Michel Chapoutier chooses not to use Roussanne, which is often blended with Marsanne, believing it to age too quickly. After pressing, the must is cold-settled for 48 hours. One third is vinified in big, 600-litre, wooden barrels which are regularly stirred, and the rest in vats.

The 2018 Hermitage Chante-Alouette Blanc just about always delivers incredible quality, and it sells for a fraction of the single vineyard releases. Classic Hermitage notes of buttered citrus, honeysuckle, acacia flowers, and spice all flow from this richer, beautifully textured, balanced Hermitage that has enough density and depth to keep for 10-15 years or more.

**\$290**



JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE

Hermitage 2018

Cépages:

Marsanne, Roussanne

Jean-Louis Chave, though more well known for his Hermitage rouge, fashions one of the greatest whites on planet earth. The base for Chave’s heroic Hermitage blanc is the plot of century-old Marsanne vines in their Péléat monopole, which provides rich and intense fruit without heaviness. The usual final blend for the blanc is 80 to 85% Marsanne with 15 to 20% Roussanne.

Chave never releases a single-parcel Hermitage; the blend of *terroirs* is all-important, and blending is one of the greatest strengths of Jean-Louis!

Gorgeous white flowers, honeysuckle, ripe quince, and toasted almond notes dominate the bouquet, and it has that rare mix of richness and opulence paired with incredible purity, freshness, and focus. It has a wealth of material yet also shows the vintage’s more rounded, sexy style. Plan on drinking bottles on release and over the following 2-4 years or hold off for a decade.

Decanting highly recommended.

\$525



JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE

Hermitage 2019

Cépages:

Marsanne, Roussanne

One of the challenges when assembling the wine list, is that there are wines that we simply wish we could hold on to until they hit their absolute peak, before offering them – however, in the case of the 2019 Hermitage blanc, it will continue to get better and better for the next two decades!

However the wines is already rather stunning, so on the list it goes.

Another incredible white from this family is the 2019 Hermitage Blanc, a powerful, concentrated, and remarkably pure Hermitage that has laser-like focus as well as textbook Marsanne notes of quince, green almond, powdered rock, licorice, and spice. It’s still tight, focused, and inward at present, yet it is reminiscent of the 2018 with its purity and rare mix of power and elegance.

Decanting highly recommended.

\$525

E. GUIGAL

Condrieu 'La Doriane' 2020

Cépages:
Viognier



In the Fall of 2022, Café des Amis added a lovely extension to the restaurant, a modern room where formerly there had been an outdoor patio. This was not an inexpensive project, and I swore to myself I would not buy any wine for a few months. And then I tasted this. So much for that!

With perhaps more 100 point professional ratings than any other producer in the world of wine, the impact and influence of the Guigal family across the Rhone Valley is incredulous. His wines have become the benchmarks for the Rhone appellation and over the past thirty years Guigal has become arguably the most lauded producer in the world.

This wine flirts with perfection, as well, with wine reviewer Jeb dunnock granting it a 99 point score, saying: "Just about pure perfection and one of the finest Condrieu to pass my lips, the 2020 Condrieu La Doriane offers an insane bouquet of grilled pineapple, charcoal, crushed stone, acacia flowers, and white peach. It picks up an incredibly sense of salinity on the palate and is full-bodied, has blockbuster concentration, remarkable purity and focus, and a great finish. I like this beast/beauty today, but it will keep for a decade."

Well said!

\$245

GEORGES VERNAY

'Chailles de l'Enfer,' Condrieu 2018

Cépages:
Viognier



One of the most iconic estates in the Northern Rhone, Christine Vernay took over the property some twenty years ago from her father (who saved the Condrieu appellation) and grandfather who created the estate. Now certified organic, they make some of the best wines the region has to offer. The "Chailles de l'Enfer" is from the original center of the appellation.

The name translates to 'Hell's Terrace; a fitting moniker for a vineyard that literally hangs on the edge of a precipice!

Powerful, mineral-accented orchard and pit fruits on the nose; a suave floral nuance builds as the wine stretches out. Sappy, penetrating and seamless in texture, offering vibrant tangerine, Anjou pear and white peach flavors and a sneaky hint of honeysuckle. Shows excellent focus and emphatic mineral cut on the finish, which lingers with outstanding tenacity.

\$262

VINCENT PARIS*Cornas 'Granit 60' 2017***Cépage:**

Syrah

Vincent Paris, whose first vintage was 1997, is as shy as his wines are bold. In his early 30's, he has retro sideburns, but not much else in the Cornas appellation's new star is "retro". Vincent's uncle is Robert Michel, one of Cornas' finest growers. He made his two first wines with his uncle then, seeking autonomy, rented facilities for the vinification of his most recent wines. He is in the process of building his own winemaking facilities with a courtyard that holds his apricot plantation.

The name of this wine, "60", references both the gradient slope of the vineyard that hold these old vines.

Mostly destemmed and aged 18 months in two- to eight-year-old barrels, it reveals a sweet, voluptuous, medium to full-bodied and moderately tannic profile to go with classic Cornas notes of smoked earth, decomposed granite, wild herbs, blackberry and black currant fruit.

\$115**VINCENT PARIS***Cornas 'Granit 60' 2021***Cépage:**

Syrah

On the chemin des Peyrouses, at the end of the village of Cornas, is the Domaine Vincent Paris. Several blends of plots make up his Cornas, whose name is inspired by the slope of the vines.

The Cornas Granit 60 comes from 3 parcels selected for their great quality: vines of 60 years of average age, cultivated on the granitic soils of the Ardèche, on slopes with an inclination reaching 60° (hence the name of the cuvée): where the vine grows slowly between the stones to give tiny yields.

The 2021 Cornas Granit 60 is more focused and tight, with both red and blue fruits, notes of iron, ground pepper, and violets, medium body, ripe tannins, and a good finish. There's less baby fat here, so the tannins feel more present, yet it has good concentration, and it will gain richness over the course of its élevage.

Decanting highly recommended.

\$115

**VINCENT PARIS***Cornas 'La Geynale' 2017***Cépage:**

Syrah

La Geynale is the feather in Vincent Paris' cap – a very special parcel in Cornas that produces amazing Syrah. This bottling comes from vines of over 100 years old grown on south facing granite soils.

This is a relatively light Geynale, not as darkly-fruited as some years, nor quite as monolithic, but it's very well balanced and harmonious, surging with life and energy. The tannins are fresh, savory and saline, and there is enough here to see the wine through into the long term. Complex and thrilling, and definitely one to decant!

\$130**VINCENT PARIS***Cornas 'La Geynale' 2018***Cépage:**

Syrah

Over the past decade, Vincent Paris has been one of Cornas' fastest rising stars. And while he has followed his own path to greatness, deftly marrying both contemporary and Old School ideas, his top cuvée is the thoroughly traditional Cornas La Geynale.

Highly aromatic aromas of ripe black and blue fruits incense exotic spices violet and a hint of olive. Densely packed and lively on the palate offering intense dark berry liqueur floral pastille and salty olive flavors a hint of smoky minerality and building spiciness. Finishes chewy focused and extremely long with mounting tannins lending shape and grip to vivid dark fruit and floral notes.

\$130**VINCENT PARIS***Cornas 'La Geynale' 2021***Cépage:**

Syrah

This wine nearly did not make the wine list; not because it does not deserve a place here, but because we nearly took it to our personal cellars. But great wine was made for sharing, and such is the case here.

A gorgeous nose, fresh, precise and surprisingly aromatic for a Cornas. The smoky oak and peppery Syrah spice combine well. Not massive, this is actually quite lean and precise, but there's a great sense of energy and focus. The tannins are intense, quite sharp and bony, but should round out in time. The acidity is really quite intense, this will always be a brisk, athletic Cornas, but should make some complex old bones. Fairly long finish. Whole-bunch fermented from 100-year-old vines

\$130

JEAN LOUIS CHAVE

Hermitage 'Farconnet' 2016

Cépage:
Syrah

Chave Hermitage is one of those legendary wines. From exceptional vintages to off vintages, the wines of Jean-Louis Chave are highly sought after and truly exceptional, no matter the vintage. A few years ago, Jean-Louis developed a second Hermitage called Farconnet for the UK. The wine was based on young vines that he did not want to put into the domaine bottling, even though the vines were 100% domaine.

Now with the vines ageing and the production more stable, Jean-Louis is taking these young estate vines and producing the Hermitage 'Farconnet'; the wine is based on these younger vines of Domaine Chave as well as some great tiny old growers that he has been able to contract with. The result is a great drinking Hermitage that shows extremely well now and has the potential to age.

A dense, dark style, with notes of licorice root, fig paste and blackberry pâte de fruit forming the core, all coated in loamy tannins and rumbling through the tarry-edged finish. A great introduction to the legendary Chave Hermitage wines!

\$150

JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE

St-Joseph 'Offerus' 2016

Cépage:
Syrah

J.L. Chave is the Northern's Rhone super-star producer, widely recognized as the best in Hermitage, which itself is considered the finest appellation in Rhone. Both reds and whites are world-famous. While Cote-Rotie and Cornas are reaching heights as well, Hermitage is still and always the king of Rhone. For reds, Syrah, one of world's most popular red grape varieties, finds its utmost expression here. Chave's Hermitage rouge is a wine of supreme polish, complexity and longevity, and will run you upwards of \$400/bottle. But he also makes a line of less expensive Syrah bottlings called "Offerus".

Produced from purchased grapes grown on the hillsides behind the village of Mauves as well as from further north on the hillsides above Tournon and St.-Jean de Muzols, this St.-Joseph reveals copious aromas of licorice, bay leaf, bouquet garni, roasted meats, black cherries and raspberries. It possesses an attractive texture as well as lots of fleshy, fat flavors, and good acidity and freshness.

\$62



DOMAINE JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE*St. Joseph 2019***Cépage:**
Syrah

Wine growers in the northern Rhône since 1481, the Chave family (currently helmed by Gérard and son Jean-Louis) represents 16 generations of unbroken lineage committed to the production of some of the finest Syrah, Marsanne, and Roussanne on the planet. Jean Louis joined his father in 1992 after completing undergraduate studies at University of Connecticut and a degree in oenology at Davis. It was at that time that he completely replanted vineyards on the family's original estate in Saint-Joseph, which had been abandoned in the early 1900's when phylloxera hit the region.

The vines from the estate vineyard are the oldest vines in St. Joseph. These are blended with fruit from Chave's vines from Les Cotes (the most southerly site in Mauves), Pichonnier and Bachasson.

Chave's 2019 Saint Joseph boasts copious floral scents of violets and lavender set against a backdrop of purple raspberries. In the mouth, it's medium to full-bodied, with a wonderfully rich yet silky feel and plenty of airy, refreshing length on the finish.

\$157*Jean-Louis Chave - The King in the North*

E. GUIGAL*Saint Joseph 'Lieu Dit' 2019***Cépage:**
Syrah

Guigal's Saint-Joseph Lieu Dit Rouge comes from the "Saint-Joseph" vineyard that gives the appellation its name. This site convinced the Guigals to work in Saint-Joseph and help to restore the historic perception of Saint-Joseph as an appellation of utmost quality.

Guigal owns the majority of this parcel; the vines here are from 20 to 75 years of age, planted on steep slopes of gneiss with streaks of granite. This is truly one of the finest sites in the Northern Rhone.

The 2019 Saint Joseph Lieu-Dit Saint Joseph has an almost flamboyant style in its sunny red and black fruits, spice, smoked game and flowery incense aromas and flavors. It's full-bodied, has sweet tannins, a round, sexy profile, and a great finish.

Despite this power and intensity, the wine retains the elegance that the finest wines of St. Joseph are know for.

Spending an evening with this wine, enjoying it as it opens and unfolds is one the best things we can think of.

*Marcel & Philippe Guigal***\$150**



JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE

'Hermitage' 2014

Cépage:
Syrah

Hermitage is holy ground for Syrah. Even in this context, Chave has a magic touch with Syrah. No one renders the grape with such sophistication and depth.

The Chave family has been making wine on the slopes of the Northern Rhône for over 500 years and Hermitage Rouge is their flagship bottling. The Chave family holds parcels in Hermitage's finest vineyard sites (Les Bessards, Meal, l'Ermite, Peleat, and Les Beaumes), and Jean-Louis blends these with an unparalleled mastery.

Chave's 2014 Hermitage takes the textural allure and brightness of the vintage and endows it with a grandeur and structure that amazes. There's a remarkable depth of complexity with beautiful snap and finesse.

This starts strong, with warm ganache, steeped fig and crushed blackberry flavors, then gains steam, picking up smoldering charcoal, bay leaf and juniper accents as this drives and expands through the finish. Offers a long echo of graphite, with the fruit keeping pace. Very impressive for the vintage, and just now really starting to hit its stride!

\$465

HERMITAGE & CÔTE-RÔTIE: A PRIMER

In contrast to Southern Rhone red wines, which tends to be blends based upon Grenache, the Northern Rhone valley is home to only one red wine grape, Syrah. Let's explore briefly the 2 most important growing regions of the Northern Rhone.

Côte Rôtie or "roasted slope" is one of the most important French appellations for Syrah (alongside Hermitage, St-Joseph and Cornas). The best wines offer up flavors of black raspberry, black currant, violet, and chocolate along with savory hints of olive, bacon fat, white pepper, and powerful charcoal smoke. They are bold yet precise with fine-grained tannins.

What defines the greatest wines from Côte Rôtie is the vineyard's position on steep southern-facing slopes that protect from northern winds. In Cote-Rotie, producers are allowed to add up to 20% Viognier to their wines, although most producers do no more than 5%, if that. No white wines are produced in Cote-Rotie, only reds.

The hill of **Hermitage** is famous for its emboldened Syrah wines that usually need at least a few years before you open them. This hill is a gentle slope, that stands in stark comparison to the steeply terraced vineyards of Cote-Rotie.

When the wines are ready to drink, you'll be greeted with heady aromas and layered flavors blackberry, black currant, licorice, coffee, candied cherry, and smoke.

Besides Syrah, Hermitage also produces some outstanding age-worthy white wines that are a blend of Marsanne and Roussanne.

Both regions produce incredible wines, and you will not go wrong with any of the selections on our list.

JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE*Hermitage 2018***Cépage:**
Syrah

The Chave family has been growing wine in the Northern Rhone since 1481. Jean-Louis joined his father in 1992 and currently represents 16 generations of unbroken lineage committed to the production of some of the finest Syrah, Marsanne, and Roussanne on the planet!

The Key to these long-lived wines of great purity, elegance, power, and finesse, is the family's winemaking pedigree and remarkable blending skills. The Chave family has never released a single vineyard or cru Hermitage instead cultivates the perfect blend of vineyards crafting the most prodigious Syrah wine in the world, year after year.

2018 is a stellar vintage in the Rhone, and this release showcases, in the words of wine critic Jeb Dunnuck 'powerful aromatics reminiscent of a classic, almost cooler year paired with massive richness, depth, and structure on the palate. Possibly coming closest to a hypothetical mix of the 2009 and 2010, this is a legendary Chave Hermitage in the making.'

What a wine!

\$550**JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE***Hermitage 2019***Cépage:**
Syrah

This is one of the most forward vintages of Chave Hermitage we have had. Like the 2003 vintage (another very warm year), Jean-Louis feels like the vintage was more influential than the vineyard sites. Still, the components of this wine are all brilliant (Le Méal, Hermite and Bessardes) are all top-quality sites that produced amazing fruit.

It shows the ripeness of the vintage, yet the purity of fruit is incredible. It's another magical wine in an incredible series of awesome Hermitage from this family.

The 2019 Chave Hermitage I uniformly full-bodied, concentrated and long, with rich, velvety tannins, dark-fruit flavors (cassis, blueberries, boysenberries) and hints of crushed stone and licorice, yet it retains its freshness.

It will be fascinating to see how this wine evolves over time.

Decanted highly recommended.

\$550

E GUIGAL*'Ex Voto' Hermitage 2015***Cépages:**
Syrah

Guigal is the most famous name in the Rhone valley. They produce great wines from a myriad of appellations all over the Rhone valley. Their top Cote Rotie wines are the quality benchmark for the appellation. For the past 20 years, Guigal has presented Ex Voto to lay a claim that their top Hermitage wine is the benchmark wine for the Hermitage appellation as well.

Ex Voto is only produced in the best vintages of Hermitage, and the fruit comes from a mere 2.2 hectares spread between 4 of the greatest vineyards in the appellation.

Aged 36 months in new oak, the colossal 2015 Hermitage Ex Voto is up with the finest vintages of this cuvée to date and is certainly in the same ballpark as the 2009 and 2010. This deep, powerful, muscular Hermitage boasts a saturated purple color to go with its huge nose of crème de cassis, freshly crushed rocks, incense, charcoal, and spring flowers.

A powerhouse, the proverbial Iron Glove wrapped in velvet.

\$675**M. CHAPOUTIER***Crozes-Hermitage 'Petite Ruche' 2018***Cépage:**
Syrah

The history of the Chapoutier family stretches back to the early nineteenth century when current owner Michel Chapoutier's great-, great-, great-grandfather Marius purchased an estate and some vineyards in the now famous village of Tain l'Hermitage in the Northern Rhône Valley. Marius Chapoutier made history in the region when he became the first grape grower there to vinify his own fruit.

Petite Ruche translates to "little beehive," which is a very appropriate name, as the vineyards were formerly dedicated to beekeeping.

The Petite Ruche is fermented entirely in concrete, and aged in vats. Thus, this is a very traditionally-made wine.

Tar and black olive notes accent the ripe black cherries, red currants and blackberries on the nose of the 2018 Crozes Hermitage la Petite Ruche. It's medium to full-bodied, with an easygoing, open-knit feel and plenty of blackberry fruit on the finish.

\$65



E. GUIGAL

Côte Rôtie 'Château d'Ampuis' 2016

Cépages:
Syrah

The Guigal family have spent 15 years restoring Château Ampuis, a historic property whose oldest sections date to the 11th century. The Chateau d'Ampuis has been the symbol of the town of Ampuis and the world-renowned Côte-Rôtie vineyard area for ten centuries.

Château d'Ampuis is made from 7 exceptional vineyards from both sides of Côte-Rôtie, the Côte Blonde and the Côte Brune. These are exceptional vineyards, and in fact every vineyard is adjoining one of the three Guigal single vineyard crus, La Mouline, La Landonne and La Turque.

Mineral-tinged aromas of blackberry, cherry liqueur, licorice and violet, plus an exotic Indian spice nuance. At once weighty and energetic, offering sappy black and blue fruit flavors and hints of candied flowers, smoky minerals and spicecake. Smoothly blends power and vivacity, finishing pure, spicy and long, with repeating spiciness and smooth tannins.

\$275



E. GUIGAL

Côte Rôtie 'Brune et Blonde,' 2017

Cépages:
Syrah, Viognier

Guigal is synonymous with the Côte-Rôtie area, for bringing this great wine region to prominence, and for owning three times as much land as next largest land-owner, vinifying 1/3 of the total appellation, and unquestionably holding the finest sites in this tiny, special area. The incredible Syrah from Côte Rôtie, has tremendous concentration, depth and finesse.

Côte-Rôtie is situated in the northernmost region of the Rhône Valley. The Syrah is planted on steep terraced hillsides that catch and focus the sun's heat, giving the region its reputation and name: "roasted slope." A small percentage of Viognier co-fermented with the Syrah, giving the wine more elegance and lightness. The soils of the Côte Brune are dark, containing more iron and some clay, and the paler Côte Blonde soils have more sand and limestone, and are the home of more Viognier plantings.

Both The Wine Advocate and Wine Spectator loved this wine; unsurprising, given that Philippe Guigal considers this the best vintage of Brune et Blonde he has ever made! This wine will reward decanting.

\$175

E. GUIGAL*Côte Rôtie 'La Landonne' 2012***Cépages:**
Syrah

The top three wines from Guigal are affectionately referred to as the 'La La's,' which is short for either La Landonne, La Mouline or La Turque. As you can see by the list of the top vintages for the famous Guigal La La wines, they are among the most consistent of great wines in the world. In fact, Guigal has produced more wines rated at a perfect 100 points than any other winery in the world. The 2012 was one such wine that was given a perfect score by the Wine Advocate's Robert Parker...

'The utterly perfect 2012 Côte Rôtie La Landonne is the star of three single vineyards in 2012. Possessing an off-the-charts sexiness in its layered, concentrated and full-bodied style, it has a wealth of fruit, ripe tannin, a stacked mid-palate and pedal-to-the-metal notes of black fruits, scorched earth, caramelized meats and crushed rocks. While this cuvée normally needs a decade to become drinkable, there's a sweetness of fruit here that allows it to offer incredible pleasure even today.'

- Robert Parker

\$800**E. GUIGAL***Côte Rôtie 'La Landonne' 2013***Cépages:**
Syrah

When the opportunity arose to add the 2013 La Landonne, we jumped at the chance. While all of the Guigal 'La Las' are exceptional, the La Landonne really stood out this vintage.

Apparently we weren't alone. Here are a few notes from some of the most important wine writers about the 2013 La Landonne:

'The gem of the lineup (and my money is on the wine of the vintage), the 2013 Côte Rôtie La Landonne sports a deep purple color and killer notes of blackcurrants, black olives, game, and spice' – *Jeb Dunnuck*

'A thunderhead of dark ganache and espresso notes slowly rolls through, while fig paste, melted licorice, warm plum and blackberry compote flavors follow. A massive beam of graphite drives the finish to a crescendo, with the fruit echoing.' - *Wine Spectator*

'Truly a masterpiece.' – *James Suckling*

What more can we say? This is a spectacular wine, and a brilliant example of why the top wines from Guigal are so sought after.

\$800**E. GUIGAL***Côte Rôtie 'La Landonne' 2015***Cépages:**
Syrah

2015 was a simply stunning vintage in the Northern Rhone Valley, and the Guigal La Landonne is one of the finest wines of the vintage. In fact, it was awarded a perfect 100 point score not just from Robert Parker, but from James Suckling and Jeb Dunnuck, as well.

'As majestic and regal as they come, the 2015 Côte Rôtie La Landonne is another perfect wine. A powerful, full-bodied, massively concentrated Côte Rôtie, it reveals a saturated purple color as well as an insane bouquet of smoked meats, graphite, liquid rocks, violets, and crème de cassis. It's tannic as all hell, yet deep and flawlessly balanced, with no hard edges and a huge finish. It's going to require a decade of cellaring to be drinkable but will keep for 40-50 years in cool cellars.'

This is a young, powerful, dark wine. We would recommend a long decant for this...and feel free to share it with us!

\$900



E. GUIGAL

Côte Rôtie 'La Mouline' 2015

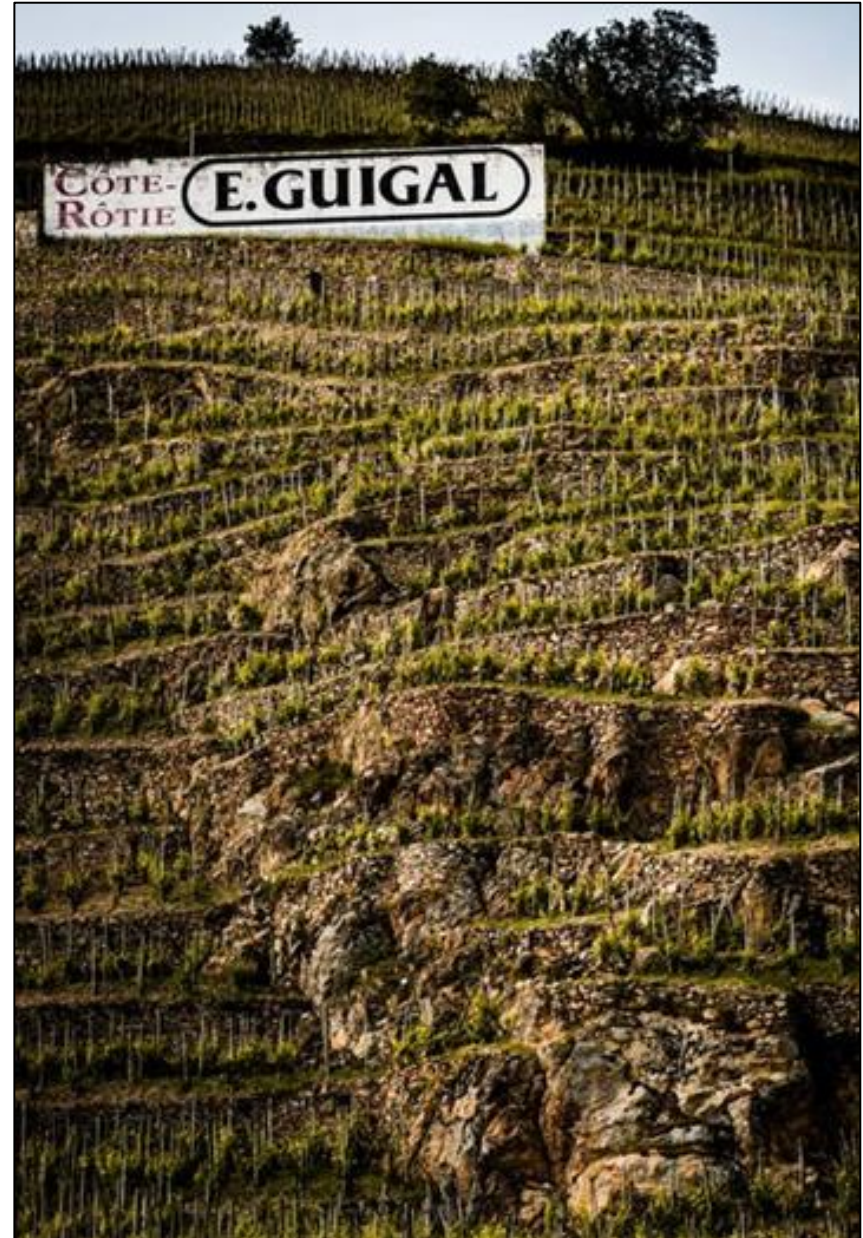
Cépages:
Syrah

'Guigal's phenomenal single-vineyard Cote Roties - the illustrious "La La's" - 'are other-worldly in nearly every vintage. **I have given these offerings more perfect scores than any other wines in the world,**' writes Robert Parker, founder of The Wine Advocate.

Super peppery, very, very concentrated and immaculately fragrant Côte-Rôtie here. There's plenty of oak in the mix, too. It shows entrancing brown-spice aromas across red plums and darker black fruits. The palate's layered, smooth and supple, pitching concentrated flavors against precise, dense and very powerful tannin. Finishes on a smooth edge as its softens slightly, leaving a trail of spiced-custard and dark-plum flavors.

This is truly an exceptional wine.

Decanting is recommended, as is sharing it with very close friends.



\$900

DOMAINE GEORGES VERNAY*'Fleur du Mai' Collines Rhodaniennes 2018*

Cépages:
Syrah

The Collines Rhodaniennes is an area in France that is broadly the same as the Northern Rhone Valley. While all of the top appellations, such as Cote-Rotie, Hermitage and St-Joseph are fairly small, vigneron here have much more access to excellent vineyards.

Christine Vernay is one of the greatest winemakers in the Northern Rhone, and perhaps all of France. She crafts lovely, high-toned wines from vineyards on the upper plateau above the slopes of Condrieu that are so steep, that were you tumble from the top of one, you might not survive the trip to the bottom!

Always a juicy, enjoyable Syrah, the Fleurs De Mai has lots of Northern Rhône character in its peppery red and black fruits, bouquet garni, and subtle gamey aromas and flavors.



\$75



The Southern Rhône



- Châteauneuf-du-Pape
- Gigondas
- Vacqueyras
- Tavel
- Lirac
- Muscat de Beaumes-de-Venise
- Coteaux du Tricastin
- Côtes du Ventoux
- Clairette de Bellegarde
- Muscat de Lunel
- Côtes du Rhône/-Villages
- Côtes du Lubéron
- Costières de Nîmes
- Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence/
les Baux

MOUNIR SAOUMA*Cotes du Rhone blanc 'Inopia' 2015***Cépages:**

Grenache Blanc, Roussanne, Marsanne,
Clairette, Bourbelenc, Viognier

The Saouma's purchased a desolate plot of land in Orange in 2011. A minimal intervention approach combined with the image of the original barren land inspired the name of the wine, 'Inopia', which translates to 'made from nothing' in Latin

Rotem & Mounir's whites are breathtaking. This village level wine is no exception, following the similar philosophy of exceptional terroir paired with high quality, low yielding fruit that remains undisturbed for an extended period of time after fermentation.

Intensely perfumed and vibrant nose of citrus, flowers and an almost salty note. Intensity of flavors and structure, with a beautifully balanced freshness. We'd never guess this was a Cotes du Rhone if we were blind tasted on it – the wines has such brilliant acidity!

Stunning and unique.

**\$75****M. CHAPOUTIER***Chateauneuf du Pape 'La Bernardine' 2021***Cépage:**

Grenache Blanc, Grenache Gris,
Clairette, Roussane

With roots dating back to 1808, M. Chapoutier is one of the oldest companies in the Rhône Valley. Yet, its world renown and the quality of wine can truly be accredited to the arrival of Michel Chapoutier in 1990. His willingness to change the set way, thirst for knowledge and open-mindedness, together with his drive to seek, discover and reflect the full potential of his *terroirs* put the winery on the world's map.

"La Bernardine" is the name of the house, sitting in the middle of the vineyards, which was bought by Michel's grandfather.

This is a very textural wine; golden, yellow and brilliant in color with notes of vine blossom and lily in the nose. The palate well-balance and fresh with flavors of candied citrus.

Fish, scallops, pork and chicken dishes sing with this wine.

**\$150**

THE MAGIC OF E. GUIGAL

Guigal wines exhibit a kind of light, a mix of purity and finesse that strikes the imagination of anyone who has the pleasure of taking a sip. The Guigal name and its timeless labels are recognizable among thousands and continue to please wine lovers, whatever the price range. Founded in 1946 by Étienne Guigal in Ampuis, in the heart of Côte-Rôtie, today, the estate is known as the Mecca of Syrah.

First and foremost, the Guigal family are winemakers, producing some of the finest wines on the planet. Of course, when we think of Côte-Rôtie, we think of the famous La-La-La (La Landonne, La Mouline and La Turque), but the Condrieu La Doriane, and more recently the Ermitage Ex-Voto red and white can now hold their heads high alongside the famous Côte-Rôtie wines.

The secrets to the brilliance of Guigal is perhaps no secret at all. They work some of the greatest vineyards in the Rhone, and for the wines that they make using purchased grapes, they taste tirelessly, sometimes hundreds of wines a day, before 8:30am! Their motto is “Nul bien sans la peine” – no good without pain.

The Guigals believe one of the key secrets to making exemplary wines is that they must be aged for extended periods. Their reds are aged up to three-and-a-half years before release, and even the Syrah that goes into their Cotes du Rhone bottling spends extended time in barrels. The barrels themselves are of the Guigal’s own making, as they have found inconsistencies from even the best barrel producers. These barrels are destined for their Northern Rhone wines, while they use foudres built to exacting specifications for their Southern Rhone wines. The reality is that it is enormously expensive to hold onto 3 or 4 vintages of Chateauneuf-du-Pape or Côte-Rôtie, or even to hold onto Côtes du Rhône that is two or three vintages behind what other producers are releasing, but it is done for the quality of the wine, and so that consumers can enjoy the wines for drinking upon release.



E. GUIGAL

Côtes du Rhone 2021

Cépages:

Grenache Blanc, Grenache Gris,
Clairette, Roussane

Guigal’s Côtes du Rhône Blanc both sets and steps outside the standard for the appellation and showcases one of the great secrets of the Guigal family: their specialization in the great white Rhône varieties. While only 8% of the Rhône’s production is white, a full 25% of Guigal’s production is white and they are today the single largest producer of whites in the Rhône Valley.

Côtes du Rhones are generally dominated by Southern Rhône grapes, namely Grenache Blanc. Since 1991 the Guigals have searched for and worked with growers to encourage plantings of Viognier for their Côtes du Rhône, as they have a love story with this grape that was nearly extinct in the middle of the last century. They believe the Viognier adds critical freshness and aromatics to the other varieties. The wine is a blend of 60% Viognier, 15% Roussanne, 10% Marsanne, 8% Clairette, 5% Bourboulenc, 2% Grenache blanc.

Yellow gold, clear and brilliant. Freshness on the nose marked by the distinctive aromas of Viognier; white flowers, apricot, acacia and white peach. On the palate it is fruity with plenty of richness and body. A well-rounded wine with elegance, strength and balance.

\$12.50/glass

\$41/bottle



DOMAINE LAFOND

Lirac 2018

Cépages:

Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre

Pascal Lafond's beautifully made Lirac is among the finest values the Southern Rhone has to offer. This is a modest, family-run estate, currently headed by Pascal Lafond, although he is grooming his 2 sons to be the future of the winery.

Lirac is the southernmost cru in the Rhône Valley... and certainly the least well-known! It grows in tranquil isolation, far from the beaten path. That said, the wine has been cultivated here since ancient times, and the appellation has been an official Côtes du Rhône cru since 1947.

Lafond's Lirac rouge is impressively concentrated, meaty and pure Grenache-based wines that are nonetheless balanced and well-structured. It exhibits aromas of cola and spice, then eases into plummy flavors on the full-bodied palate. It's rich and velvety in texture, with some peppery spice on the finish.

\$39



DOMAINE ROSE DIEU

Plan de Dieu - Côtes du Rhône-Villages 2019

Cépages:

Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre

The Domaine Rose-Dieu is a young estate, born from the passion of Damien Rozier for his Provençal land, vineyard, and wine. The vines were first bought in 2002, on the Plan du Dieu terroir. The following year The wine maker decided to enlarge the estate by the construction of a particular cellar and the acquisition of new vines on this same terroir. "Wishing to give an identity to these wines of passion, it pleased me to associate my name, Rozier, with that of my lands, the Plan of God. Thus was born the Domain 'Rose-Dieu'", says wine maker, Damien Rozier.

The year 2017 was a classic vintage in the Rhône, and this red is a fine example. It comes from Plan de Dieu, one of the villages within the appellation of Côtes du Rhône Villages. This denomination is considered a higher-quality appellation than a basic Côtes du Rhône.

Rich and spicy, this blend is fresh and fruity with chocolate notes. It has a mouthwatering acidity and ends with a long, silky finish. It's a flavorful wine that would go well with grilled beef and other hearty dishes.

\$11.00/glass

\$39



LES SANG DES CAILLOUX

Vacqueyras 2012

Cépage:
Grenache

One glimpse of Serge Férigoule's barbell moustache might be enough for one to be completely enamored with the wines of Le Sang des Cailloux, although they also speak remarkably well for themselves. This domaine's name means "the blood of the stones," and Serge Férigoule is most certainly the heart that links the two together. In 1974, Serge left winemaking school with a longing to return to the vineyards. He went to work for Monsieur Ricard's family in 1979 to oversee the vineyards. Without anyone in his family to succeed him, Ricard decided to gamble by partnering with Serge in 1982.

In 1990, after Monsieur Ricard's retirement, Serge launched Le Sang des Cailloux. Vacqueyras had just been awarded an A.O.C. that same year, a timely twist of fate that helped Serge's wines to become as celebrated as they deserve to be.

\$65



E. GUIGAL

Gigondas 2016

Cépage:
Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah

The Guigal family may be the world's greatest testament to a family-run winery with impeccably high standards, integrity and an uncompromising vision of the future. They continue to push the envelope of quality to greater and greater heights. Marcel Guigal learned it all from his father, Etienne, a legend in the Northern Rhone.

In the Southern Rhone, they buy only wine, and with a distinctive approach. Namely, they do not have a single contract. Marcel and Philippe taste relentlessly and start from scratch every year. In a given year, they will purchase the top 1% of the wines they taste, and because of their longtime contacts, they have access to the best wines in the region; they select, in other words, 1% from the very finest wines in the Southern Rhone.

Ripe, with notes of mulling spices weaving around the core of steeped plum and macerated currant fruit. Hints of licorice snap, wood spice and black tea fill in on the fleshy finish.

\$64

APPELLATIONS AND THE NOTION OF *TERROIR*.

For many wine lovers, the vineyards of Chateauneuf du Pape conjures up images of vineyards dominated by large, smooth stones, called *galets roulés*. These stones collect heat during the day, and radiate it back to the vines at night. But not all of Chateauneuf is like this.

In other parts of Chateauneuf, you will see few, or no stones; rather you will find vineyards made up primarily of sand. These disparate soils are part of what makes up the *terroir* of a region. But what does that mean?

Terrior is a French word with no one-word English translation; rather it refers to all the physical characteristics of a vineyard or area, and how those characteristics are expressed in the finished wine from there.

Here are a few examples...is the soil in a vineyard mostly clay? That retains water. Is it mostly gravel? That drains water very well, and will benefit a different grape than the clay. Is the area hot during the day, or moderate? Does the area get a lot of wind? Is it on a steep hill that gets more sunlight?

Small differences can make a big difference in the characteristic of a wine. Some of the greatest vineyards in Burgundy, for example, are separated merely by a low stone wall (called a 'clos'); the difference may be as simple as the angle of a vineyard allowing the grapes to get 10 more minutes of sunrise a day. The space between a Premier Cru Vineyard and a Grand Cru vineyard can be 15 feet in elevation!

Do these differences really matter? They absolutely do, and in many cases, the differences have been studied for hundreds of years.

Not all vineyards are created equal, and wines from the best of them tend to command more money.



FAMILLE CHAUSSY

Chateauneuf du Pape 'Cuvée Tradition' 2017

Cépage:

Grenache, Mourvedre, Syrah

Christine and Daniel Chaussy are the 5th generation of winemakers for the celebrated family run estate, Mas de Boislauzon.

This 2017 is the first release of a new wine using grapes from two vineyards in the north of the appellation farmed biodynamically. As these vineyards develop, Daniel and Christine's children, already involved somewhat at Mas de Boislauzon, will become more involved here.

The Famille Chaussy Chateauneuf is very different from the Mas de Boislauzon that has graced our wine list for years. The Boislauzon always presented its Mourvedre somewhat forcefully; here the wine is lighter on its feet, elegant, graceful.

This is an ebullient, perfumed blend of Grenache (70%), Mourvèdre (20%) and Syrah (10%) sourced from limestone soils. Vinified entirely in concrete, its black currant and mulberry flavors are piercing and pure, lifted by tings of salty minerality and fine, lingering tannins.

\$99



Having firmly established themselves in Burgundy with their Lucien LeMoine wines, the Saouma's purchased a desolate plot of land in Orange in 2011. In 2012 Mounir Saouma bought a domain nearby. The Domain's vineyards had not been looked after for decades and was in fact not existing anymore. On the other hand there was an underground cellar, which was found usable by Mounir. This cellar is now used for ageing of the wines. The vinification takes place in a new cellar built above the underground cellar. The vineyards have been totally renovated and replanted.

ROTEM & MOUNIR SAOUMA

Côtes du Rhône 'Inopia,' 2017

Cépage:

Grenache, Mourvèdre, Counoise, Syrah,
Cinsault

A minimal intervention approach combined with the image of the original barren land inspired the name of the wine, INOPIA, which translates to "made from nothing" in Latin.

The old vines in Mounir's Côtes du Rhône Villages holdings gave concentrated, classic reds – with ripe tannins, adequate but fresh acidities, and excellent concentration (due to the low crop).

\$75

CLOS SAOUMA

Chateauneuf du Pape 'Ariosa,' 2014

Cépage:

Grenache

Mounir Saouma's story in the Chateauneuf started with the sale of a small plot in Pignan, one of the most famous vineyard areas of Chateauneuf. Within this first vineyard acquisition, Mounir has one plot of 100% Grenache planted in the 1930s which yields naturally at a miniscule 1 ton per acre. From these vines he produces Arioso. Pignan's exposure brings freshness to the natural ripeness achieved in this area. The rocky and sandy soils of this original plot add elegance. When you start tasting you understand why some have compared his wines to the great Rayas wines of the 1980s

\$383

CLOS SAOUMA

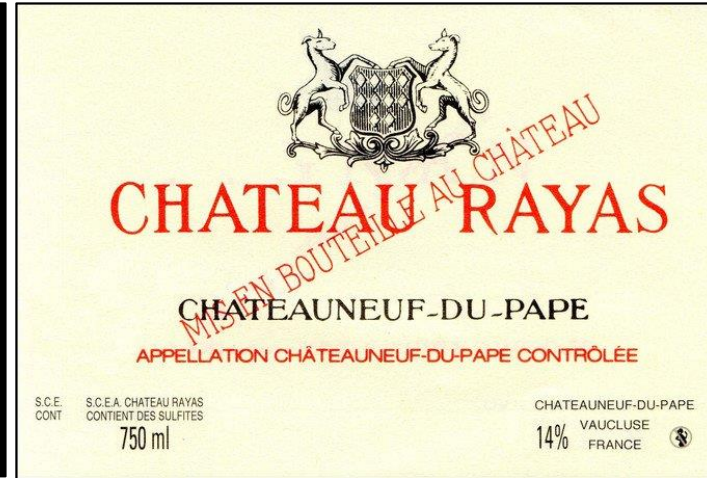
Chateauneuf du Pape 'Omnia,' 2016

Cépage:

Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre

Mounir Saouma likes to describe Chateauneuf as a mosaic; its differences make for very different interpretations. Omnia, Latin for 'all,' is his attempt to encompass the entire region's terroir in one glass. The aging is as Mounir ages his Burgundies: extremely long, never racked, no fining, no filtration. It would be easy to say that we expected the experience running one of Burgundy's leading producers would show in Mounir's wines. But the actual results need to be tasted to be believe; they reveal a wine with beguiling fruit and savory richness, yet extraordinary finesse and detail.

\$196



It can be said that in Chateauneuf du Pape there is Emmanuel Reynaud of Chateau Rayas, and then there is everyone else. These wines, grown on almost pure sand soils, represent the greatest Grenache-based wines in the world. In a time, when everything is done in a laboratory, Reynaud's wines are almost heroically old-world, old school, traditional. The newest barrel in the cellar was bought 25 or so years ago – and it was a used barrel then. To taste the wines of Rayas is to taste Chambolle-Musigny that just happens to be grown in the Rhone valley, so fine are the textures on everything that he makes. It is an honor to have his wines on the list; alas, they exist only in tiny quantities. These are substantial, exotically rich wines that are quite literally unique.

CHATEAU RAYAS

Chateauneuf du Pape, 2006

Cépage :

Grenache, Cinsault

The elegant 2006 Rayas Chateauneuf du Pape offers a deep ruby color as well as opulent, fleshy, kirsch and black raspberry characteristics along with hints of spring flowers and loamy soil. A sexy, showy, beautifully balanced, silky effort, it is already approachable, and should drink well for two decades. This is one of three bottles that came to Kansas City of the 2006 vintage.

\$1500

CHATEAU RAYAS

Chateauneuf du Pape, 2009

Cépage :

Grenache, Cinsault

The 2009 is an awesome example of elegance combined with extraordinary power. The elegance and sublime nature of this wine make it irresistible, showing aromatics of framboise, black cherry liqueur intermixed with blacker fruits, licorice and a hint of flowers. Pure with terrific layers of fruit concentration (although it's remarkably light on its feet), silky tannins, well-integrated acidity and a stunning personality, this monumental Rayas is breathtaking

\$2700

“How can you govern a country which has two hundred and forty-six varieties of cheese?”

— Charles de Gaule

CHATEAU RAYAS

Chateauneuf du Pape 2010

Cépage:
Grenache

The spirit of Jacques Reynaud, the godfather of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, is always present at the storied estate of Château Rayas. When this legendary founder died suddenly in 1997, his wife asked their nephew, Emmanuel Reynaud, to take the reins at both Château Rayas and Château de Fonsalette. Already making wines at his father's Château des Tours, Emmanuel agreed.

Somewhat reclusive and to be found working his vineyards at most any time of day, every day, Emmanuel does not revel in the fame and notoriety that come with making such sought-after and acclaimed wines. Instead, he continues to quietly but successfully carry the mantle of his famous forebears, producing hauntingly aromatic wines.

Rayas is a secluded estate northeast of the village, not far from Courthézon. It is unusual because its 13 hectares of vines are north facing and contain none of the fabled round pebbles (galets roulés), and the vineyard is surrounded by forest.

An explosively perfumed bouquet displays red and dark berry preserves potpourri licorice and smoky minerals. Broad and fleshy offering deeply concentrated black raspberry and bitter cherry flavors and a strong note of floral pastilles.

Chewy tannins give grip to a powerful alluringly sweet endless finish. Shows tremendous density, and is clearly built for the long haul.

\$1800



The Genius in the fields...Emmanuel Reynaud, owner and vigneron of Chateau Rayas and Domaine des Tours

DOMAINE DE SAJE*Chateauneuf du Pape Ruche' 2019***Cépages:**

Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, Cinsault

For many years, Jérôme Mathieu worked alongside his brother André at Domaine Mathieu, managing the estate passed down from their parents. In 2015, André's eldest son came of age, and the brothers amicably agreed to split the domain to have clear lines of inheritance. Jérôme, who lives in his grandfather's house in the center of the village, subsequently spent 2015-16 revamping his grandfather's old cellar to prepare to make wine under his own roof as of 2016. He created Saje and began to use this label with the 2013 vintage.

The Châteauneuf holdings are spread throughout the appellation. In the traditional manner, most are based on Grenache but are co-planted with many other varieties, adding up to all 13 permitted varieties. Each parcel is harvested en masse and fermented.

Domaine de Saje's foudre-aged 2019 Chateauneuf du Pape is 80% Grenache, with the balance being a blend of 14 other permitted varieties (counting color mutations). It delivers attractive cherry fruit and savory notes of peppery spice on the nose, while the palate is medium to full-bodied, supple and silky in texture, with a long, peppery-cinnamon finish.

**\$90****THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME 'CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE'**

The first vines in Chateauneuf du Pape were planted by the ancient Romans. Historic ancient Roman ruins are easy to find in the Southern Rhone Valley.

In fact, one of the best preserved, ancient amphitheatres built by the Romans in all of Europe is in Orange, not far from Chateauneuf.

Chateauneuf du Pape takes its name from the time when the Pope moved to Avignon in 1309. The move was due to issues between the King of France and the Papacy. 8 different Popes served in Avignon as the Papacy remained in Chateauneuf du Pape until 1378.

The first Pope to move to Avignon was Pope Clement V, who was an avid wine lover. Pope Clement V also spent time in Bordeaux at what is now called Chateau Pape Clement in Pessac Leognan.

The Pope moving to Avignon is of course where the region takes its name, as Chateauneuf du Pape is translated to mean; "The Pope's New Castle," although it is likely the area was already known as 'Chateauneuf' and when the first Pope moved there, 'du Pape' (of the Pope) was added on to the name.

CHATEAU DE FONSALETTE*Cotes du Rhone 2009***Cépage:**

Grenache, Cinsault, Syrah

When the legendary founder of Château Rayas, Jacques Reynaud, died suddenly in 1997, his wife asked their nephew, Emmanuel Reynaud, to take the reins at Château Rayas and Château Fonsalette. Already making wines at his father's Château des Tours, Emmanuel agreed.

Emmanuel is reclusive, and can be found working his vineyards at most any time of day, every day. Emmanuel does not revel in the notoriety that comes with making such sought-after and acclaimed wines, but he continues to carry the mantle of his famous forebears, producing hauntingly aromatic wines at Château Rayas, Château des Tours and Château de Fonsalette.

Quite simply, the three wines of Fonsalette defy their appellation: They are among the best and most in-demand wines from Côtes-du-Rhône.

This 2009 offers a highly perfumed bouquet of blackberries, cherries, Asian spices and violets, berry flavors on the palate with a smoky mineral underpinning, with excellent finishing clarity and a lingering note of zesty spices.

\$700**CHATEAU DE FONSALETTE***Cotes du Rhone 2010***Cépage:**

Grenache, Cinsault, Syrah

Château de Fonsalette defies its appellation.

Just outside the Châteauneuf-de-Pape appellation, these first-class Côtes-du-Rhône are treated with the same care and respect as their neighbors.

Limited to just three wines, a blanc, a rouge and a 100% Syrah, these are some of the best and most in-demand wines in Côtes-du-Rhône, defying what can sometimes be seen as a humble appellation status.

Biodiversity is cherished at this 120-hectare estate, of which only 12 hectares are planted to vine. The rest of the land holds olive trees, woodlands, and other types of agriculture. Emmanuel's wines, whether they are from Fonsalette, Rayas, or des Tours, all hold the same signature complexity, depth, and meaningful nature.

Spicy raspberry and cherry aromas are complicated by incense, lavender and pungent herbs. Pliant red fruit flavors are deepened by candied licorice and bitter chocolate, with bright acidity adding lift. The tightly focused, energetic, impressively persistent finish leaves tangy mineral and bitter cherry skin notes behind.

\$600

CHATEAU RAYAS 'PIGNAN'

Chateauneuf du Pape 2009

Cépage:
Grenache

Pignan is the second wine of Chateau Rayas. However, because much of Pignan comes from their more northern vines, it can also be looked at as a unique brand. In some years, like 1990, Pignan is an amazing wine that while not at the level of Rayas, it's still outstanding.

Pignan takes its name from the pine trees that surround the vineyard as Pignan is French for pinetree. Like Rayas, Pignan is produced from 100% Grenache in most vintages.

Reynaud seeks to let an exceptional terroir speak for itself: the sandy soil does not contain the famous pudding stones so typical of the appellation.

This medium to dark ruby-hued offering exhibits glorious, sweet notes of strawberry and black cherry jam intermixed with nori (the seaweed wrapper used in sushi restaurants), licorice, lavender and incense. Deep, full-bodied and supple textured, this cuvee is already irresistible.

\$1000



CHATEAU RAYAS 'PIGNAN'

Chateauneuf du Pape 2010

Cépage:
Grenache

Chateau Rayas, one of the region's most prestigious estates, is also one of the world's most mysterious estates. This small 30-acre estate is owned by the Reynaud family, which dates back to the late 19th century. The estate has always had an image of secrecy and seclusion. Following the death of Jacques Reynaud in 1997, his nephew, Emmanuel took over, and he continues to produce wines that go from strength to strength. Emmanuel Reynaud, who is also the proprietor of the outstanding Vacqueyras estate called Domaine des Tours, has the same eccentric idiosyncrasies as his uncle.

Intensely perfumed red fruit and floral aromas are complicated by notes of Asian spices and minerals. Extremely fresh on the palate, offering nervy redcurrant and raspberry flavors and a strong spicy underpinning. A zesty note of blood orange comes up with air and adds a tangy edge to the long, precise, floral-accented finish. A very sexy wine that's surprisingly approachable now, especially compared to its big brother.

\$800

WHAT DOES VIN DE PAYS D'OC ACTUALLY MEAN?

Vin de pays is a French term meaning "country wine." Vins de pays is a step in the French wine classification that is above the table wine (*Vin de table*) classification, but below Appellation d'origine contrôlée (AOC).

Unlike table wines, which are only indicated as being from France, Vin de pays carries a more specific geographic designation of origin, the producers have to submit the wine for analysis and tasting, and the wines have to be made from certain varieties or blends. Regulations regarding varieties and labelling practices are typically more lenient than the regulations for AOC wines.

First demarcated in 1987 as Vin de Pays d'Oc, the vast scale of the vineyards is striking. Covering four departments (Aude, Gard, Hérault and Pyrénées-Orientales), the region reaches from the Mediterranean coastline to the mountainous slopes of the Pyrenees and the Massif Central. The region's size, along with its varied geology and climate, means there is quite a bit of variety here.

One of the main benefits is the official guarantee of quality for consumers: the IGP Pays d'Oc classification has strict and precise specifications. Coupled with the low prices for which wines from this region typically sell, there is tremendous value here.

Unusually, all bottles destined to be labelled IGP Pays d'Oc are approved by blind tastings conducted by a range of wine professionals – an approach which would be considered unduly radical in Bordeaux or Burgundy.

The focus here is on labelling wines with the varietal(s) listed, which makes navigating them somewhat easier!



VIGNOBLES FERRANDIERE

Southwestern France Pays d'Oc 2021

Cépage:
Chardonnay

Between the Corbières and Minervois, 12 miles from Carcassonne and 25 from the Mediterranean, lies the Ferrandière Estate. It dwells on the site of ancient wetlands amidst the hills and mountains of the Languedoc, cut off from the sea during the uplift that raised the Pyrenees. This brackish lake, with its unpleasant and unhealthy climate, was drained under Louis XIV and the end of the 17th century, and the land was steadily reclaimed and planted during the French Second Empire. The Domaine de la Ferrandière was owned and farmed by the Gau family for more than 100 years until they sold the estate to Jean-Claude Mas of Domaines Paul Mas in 2013.

The Ferrandière shows a pale yellow color with green highlights. Nose: very fruity unoaked Chardonnay clean and crisp. Palate: pear and passionfruit flavors and a well-rounded buttery finish.

\$8/glass \$31/bottle



DOMAINE LE ROC

'La Folle Noir d'Ambat' Fronton 2019

Cépages:
Negrette

Since the Middle Ages, Fronton, just north of Toulouse, has been the home of the Negrette grape, which is nearly exclusive to the area. The region encompasses 2,300 hectares of vines dominated by dry heat and rocky soils and the landscape is marked by hills and valleys. The banks of the Tarn and Garonne rivers have particularly poor gravel soils. Vines grown in this area are forced to struggle and dig deeper for nutrients to establish a stronger root system. This gives the grapes very distinct flavors and they are commonly characterized as having notes of violets and licorice. It is here that, since 1974, the Ribes family has been dedicated to producing wines with personality and character.

Folle Noire basically translates to the 'crazy black lady' (in this case, a reference to the Negrette grape)! You really should try this wine - you will find La Folle Noire d'Ambat is a ripe, succulent, exotically fruit wine that makes for delicious, easy drinking anytime.

\$12.00/glass \$39/bottle



FIN DE FOLIE

Côtes de Catalanes 2018

Cépages:
Geenache, Carignan

At the northern limit of the Roussillon lies the tiny AOC of Maury. It is defined by its rugged, desert-like terrain and black schist soils. Maury possesses a spectacular, eerie beauty and harsh environment that make it unsuited to agriculture – other than the old vines of Grenache and Carignan that grow here. demand for those has been in decline,

David Shiverick, the owner of Shiverick Imports, one of our favorite US importers, had an opportunity to buy vines to produce dry wines under the Vin de Pays des Côtes Catalanes regional distinction. Thus was Fin de Folie born. David partnered with Richard Case, the winemaker responsible for Pertuisane, among others, who has specialized in making wine in this difficult terrain for years.

The age of the vines and ruggedness of the land make machine harvesting impossible. The vineyards are farmed organically and by hand. Work in the cellar is very minimalist with aging in demi-muid and no fining or filtration.

\$90



COSSE ET MAISONNEUVE

'Cahors 'Solis' 2018

Cépages:
Malbec

Domaine Cosse et Maisonneuve is the result of the combination of two talented oenologists and winemakers: Matthieu Cosse and Catherine Maisonneuve. Matthieu (winemaker) is a graduate of the Institute of Enology in Bordeaux, and Catherine (oenologist) holds a BTS viticulture and oenology in Blanquefort.

15 years ago, they took over a 5 hectare estate in Prayssac, a short distance from Cahors, planted with old vines of Malbec and set out to make wines that are the antithesis of the rustic image of Cahors.

They farm their vineyards biodynamically and plan to become certified by Demeter. Everything they do in the vineyard is done with the aim of attaining balanced soils which produce the best ripening conditions for the grapes in order to make harmonious, aromatically complex and precise wines.

This bottle is a sleek, elegant red with fruit forward notes of blackberry, plum and strawberry. Subtle notes of nutmeg, cedar and oak lingers through the long, dry finish. Pairs well with red meat, mature and hard cheese.

\$35



CHATEAU HAUT MON PLAISIR

Cahors 2016

Cépages:
Malbec

Owners Cathy & Daniel Fournié tend their 30 hectare estate comprised of steep, gravelly terraces. Since 1998, they have produced their own wines.

'Tradition' is the first or introductory wine from Haut Monplaisir. As with all the domain's cuvées, this is 100% Malbec that is certified Organic. Tradition is made and raised primarily in concrete vats, with 30% raised in neutral barrels. Aromatically intense, with rich spicy mineral fruit, this is a long, earthy rendition of Malbec; a stark contrast to the more polished Solis Cahors.

This young wine is all about fruit. Juicy black-currant and berry flavors are right up front, ably backed by the crisp acidity and layer of dry tannins.

\$51

ALBERT-BICHOT*France 'Horizon de Bichot' 2021***Cépage:**

Pinot Noir

Since 1350, the Bichot family has called Burgundy home. But, it was in 1831 that Bernard Bichot founded a merchant house bearing his name in Monthélie, a couple of kilometers south of Beaune. At the end of the 19th century, his grandson Albert Bichot took the family business into a new direction and created the winery, Maison Albert Bichot as we know it. The family heritage has been perpetuated from father to son since then.

The hills in the southern part of Limoux have an average altitude of 380 m. This, along with precipitation arriving from the west, makes it the coolest and therefore the latest-ripening terroir with low yields. This area produces fresh, mineral wines that are ideal for cellaring.

Deep cherry red color. Black fruit (blackberry, blackcurrant) combined with sour cherry and raspberry on the nose. Cherry flavors evolve toward peppery, mentholated notes. A hint of cedar rounds out the fruitiness. Silky texture with impressive length. Complex and fresh.

**\$12.00/glass \$39****MAS DE CHEVALIERE***Pays d'Oc 2019***Cépage:**

Cabernet Sauvignon

Michel Laroche, a Chablisien, was one of the pioneers in the resurgence of quality winemaking in the South of France in the early 1980s. He is committed to making great wine in the Languedoc. In 1995, Michel acquired Mas La Chevaliere, a state-of-the-art winery located in a strategic spot in the middle of the vast Languedoc region and has crafted this excellent value priced Cabernet Sauvignon.

The wines from Mas La Chevaliere express a pureness that defy their modest appellation (the 'Pays d'Oc appellation covers roughly the same area as the Languedoc-Roussillon wine region – one of the largest winegrowing areas in France).

This Cabernet Sauvignon is smooth and easy to drink, full bodied with medium acidity and medium to high tannins. The flavor profile leads with fruit (blackcurrant, blackberry jam, plum, black cherry) followed by earth, leather, slate, nutmeg, black tea, and oak notes. Perfect with richer dishes on the menu!

**\$9.00/glass \$34/bottle**

CHATEAU RIEUSSEC 'CARMES DE RIEUSSEC'

Sauternes 2016

Cépages:

Semillon, Muscadelle, Sauvignon Blanc

Classified as an 1855 Sauternes First Growth, Chateau Rieussec was acquired by the Rothschild family in 1984.

Château Rieussec's second wine is selected according to the same standards as the first wine. Its character consistently reveals a beautiful aromatic range dominated by citrus flavors. Carmes de Rieussec's name is a reference to the Carmelite monks in Langon, who owned the Rieussec estate in the 18th century.

2016 was a challenging year for Sauternes, as weather conditions made development of Botrytis difficult, yet the Carmes de Rieussec shows beautifully.

Packed with ripe, honeyed Sémillon, this wine has richness while also keeping plenty of freshness. Acidity and a crisp edge are balanced with the intense orange marmalade and spice flavors that will make this wine develop well.



\$7.00/2oz pour \$65/bottle

CHATEAU GUIRAUD

Sauternes 2009

Cépages:

Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc

Originally known as La Maison Noble du Bayle, the estate earned its name, and its fame, when it was owned by the Guiraud family in 1766. At the time of the 1855 Classification, the wines were sold under the name of Chateau Bayle.

The true modern era for the estate started in 2006 when Chateau Guiraud was purchased by a partnership formed by Robert Peugeot and three well-known Bordeaux winemakers and chateau owners, Olivier Bernard of Domaine de Chevalier, Stephan Von Neipperg who owns numerous St. Emilion properties including Canon La Gaffeliere, La Mondotte and Clos de l'Oratoire and Xavier Planty.

The 2009 Guiraud has a complex, precocious bouquet with honeysuckle and jasmine notes, hints of dried honey and white peach. It is tightly wound but very precise. The palate is pure and tense in the mouth – great precision here once again with superbly integrated oak and a lovely, seductive, very viscous botrytis-laden finish. Opulent, hedonistic...just wow.

This was Wine Spectator's #5 wine in the 2012 Top 100 list. And it is just getting better.



\$150.00

CHATEAU GUIRAUD*Sauternes 2015***Cépages:**

Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc

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\$85/375ml half bottle**QUINTA DOS PESOS***Carcavelos 1991***Cépages:**

Arinto, Gallega Dourado, Ratinho

Carcavelos (pronounced 'cahr-kuh-VAY-lohsh') is a *Vinho Generoso*, a style of Fortified wine similar to Tawny Port. But to us, it is much more interesting. This is why it is the only non-French wine to grace our list.

Carcavelos is a region in Portugla, just outside of Lisbon, that almost ceased to be; until recently, there was only one winery left, and the entire appellation is just 25 hectares! In fact, the Quinto dos Pesos winery itself long ago ceased to be, when it's founder, Manoel de Belosa suddenly passed away. Manoel had purchased the property in 1963, then spent twenty years reinvigorating the vineyards. In 2005, after releasing just a few vintages, the winery closed its doors. Until recently its barrels remained untouched, not even topped off.

This wine is a piece of history, a 30 year old bottle of magic that reminds us of an aged Tawny Port, with the acidity and citrus notes from a Madiera. Caramel, hazelnut, chocolate, plum and raspberry notes flow throughout.

Try this before it is all gone... forever.

\$15.00/2oz pour