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CORNEY & BARROW LIMITED
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INDEPENDENT WINE MERCHANTS-1780



BURGUNDY

2015 VINTAGE, EN PRIMEUR

WELCOME

Welcome to a new year and, more importantly, welcome to a new Burgundy vintage! Although a couple of releases have already escaped out of the blocks (of which more on page 4), the starting pistol for the 2015 vintage is officially sounded at our Burgundy tasting, which this year is happening in multiple locations for the first time: the Tower of London on Monday the 9th January, Merchants' Hall in Edinburgh on the 10th, Hong Kong on the 12th and Singapore also on the 12th.

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We are constantly looking for new talent in Burgundy and have been delighted over the recent past to have added to our books Domaine Jacques Prieur in Meursault, Domaine Labruyère in Moulin-à-Vent (both as exclusive UK agents) and Domaine Lafarge-Vial in Fleurie. As our roster of Burgundy producers grows, it is all too easy to lose track of releases. This year, we have therefore included a list of all growers whose wines we release *en primeur*. We have set this out in geographical order, from north to south.

As you can see from the individual producer sections, some domaines' wines are released as standalone offers. Our Burgundy 'season' runs from November to April. Growers whose wines are released as separate offers include Bonneau du Martray, Domaine Trapet, Domaine Leflaive, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Domaine Comte Georges de Vogüé, Clos de Tart, Domaine François Carillon, Domaine Jacques Prieur, Domaine Marquis d'Angerville, Domaine Pierre Labet and Château de la Tour.

Our tastings in Burgundy this year stretched from September to December 2016, comprising three visits and with the presence of several members of the Buying and Sales Teams, including Adam Brett-Smith, Will Hargrove, Joe Muller, David Ramsey and Rebecca Palmer. Keeping the show on the road, as always, were Christelle Chédeville, Kate Leney and Tanya Schaller, as well as the team which collected the samples for the tastings in January. A final word of thanks goes to Alison Buchanan, whose back-catalogue of producer detail, not to mention her encouragement, has been invaluable.



GUY SEDDON
January, 2017



TASTING GUIDE

Our tasting notes provide full details but, at your request, we have also introduced a clear and simple scoring system. We hope these guidelines assist you in your selection.

Wines are scored out of 20. You seem to like it and it has the benefit of simplicity.

We will often use a range of scores (e.g. 16.5 to 17) to indicate the potential to achieve a higher mark. When a '+' is shown it adds further to that potential. Wines from lesser vintages will, inevitably, show a lower overall score.

Wines are judged, in a very broad sense, against their peers. Why? Well, you cannot easily compare a Ford with an Aston Martin, other than they are both cars and have wheels. It is not that different with wine.

A score is a summary only. The devil is in the detail, so please focus on the tasting notes and, as always, speak to our team.

Tastings were, as always, conducted in silence and the scores, remarkably consistent in past years, are only discussed later.

2015 VINTAGE OVERVIEW

The 2015 growing season was a meeting of extremes. The summer heat left its stamp on the fruit, with succulent, ripe flavours pervading the wines. There are substantial tannins in the reds thanks to thick grape skins, although they are supple, almost without exception. There is freshness and poise too, due in part to the water reserves built up over a wet winter. This allowed the vines to hold out until the August rains.

The icing on the cake was a clear blue sky for harvest, allowing the grapes to be picked in optimal conditions. The only negative is the yield, which in many places is low again in 2015. Reasons for this include damage to dormant buds during the previous season and some uneven fruit set caused by a warm June.

A mild winter and a warm spring

After a soggy autumn in 2014, came a mild winter. Temperatures only became properly wintry in January, and there were but a few days of frost in February. March was both cool and dry, seeing 9% less rainfall than the regional average.

April was warmer overall, although interspersed with cool, damp periods. The first green leaves were visible from mid-month, following which the vines developed at a steady rate. Some growers reported mildew pressure at this point, requiring vigilance in the vineyards. The second week of May saw rapid vegetative growth across the Côte d'Or, aided by spring warmth.

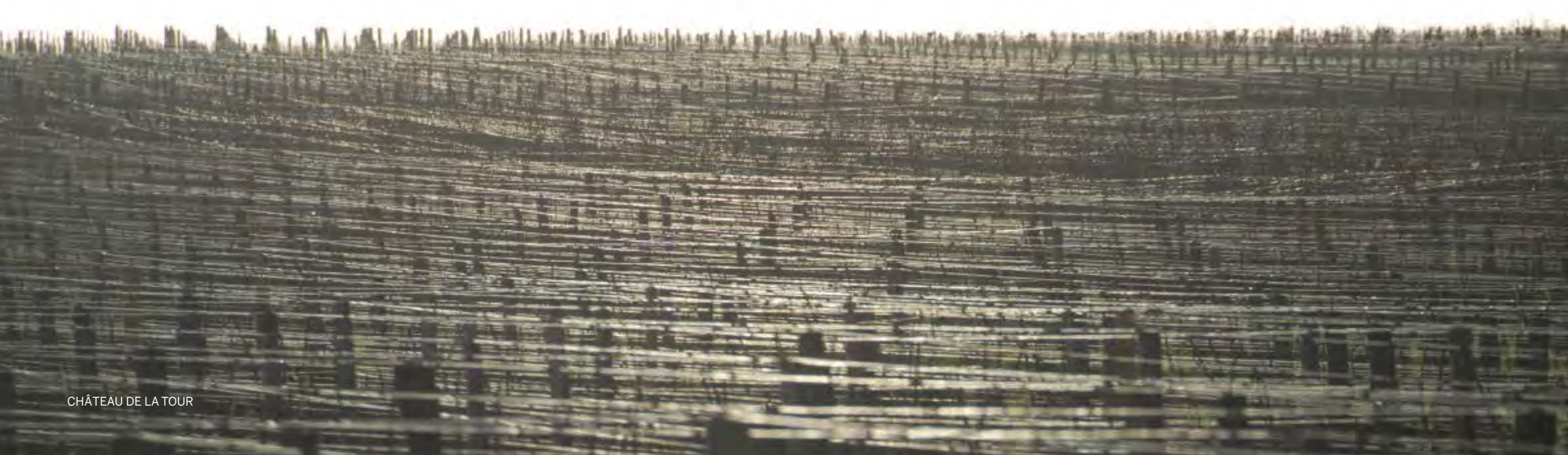
An early summer, with a scorching July

Flowering was early, beginning in the final days of May and the first days of June. Most sites saw flowers opening quickly, within a few days. Rapid development was brought on by some rain from the 10th to 15th June. The month of June turned out to be the warmest since 2003, causing poor fruit set in some plots.

Grape ripening started in mid-July, with *véraison* (colour change) starting but then being halted in its tracks by temperatures which exceeded 35°C for much of the month. Domaine Leflaive reported 15 days in excess of 35°C during July. Salvation arrived at month-end in the form of rain, but drought pressure

nonetheless remained, the once-plentiful soil water reserves all but spent.

In addition to this rain, August saw a return of more normal temperatures, which allowed the stifled region to breathe. Prompted by the cooler air, ripening advanced rapidly, *véraison* being almost completed by mid-month.



Harvest

Most growers harvested during the first two weeks of September, under fine conditions. Cautious picking of the Chardonnay has resulted in whites which might display fleshiness and glycerol but are poised and have scarcer tropical fruit character than might be expected from a warm year. Some, such as François Labet, left up to a week between white and red wine harvests.

The grapes were healthy, with minimal sorting required. Phenolic maturity was excellent: many growers mention the thick grape skins of 2015 and the high proportion of domaines which have opted for whole bunch vinification shows how confident they were with the ripeness of the stems. Domaine de la Romanée-Conti used 100% whole bunches in 2015, for the first time since 2009. The healthy, aerated clusters meant that for many appellations, the full crop could be used for vinification.

8 When you ask about potential alcohols (essentially the sugar ripeness), *vignerons* smile – always a reassuring sign. Certainly a poor year for sugar salesmen in the Côte. In our tastings, the final alcohol levels were acceptably balanced by the substantial extract and fruit density, in spite of what some seem to have assumed before tasting.

Volumes range from good in the Côte de Beaune whites, such as at Domaine Patrick Javillier, to reasonable in Chablis, to tight in the Côte de Nuits reds (16-17% down at Domaines de l'Arlot and Gilles Jourdan), to pitiful in the Côte de Beaune reds, where Domaine Lafarge picked only around half a normal crop. As mentioned above, yield variations were due to a combination of latent vine damage from previous years, mildew pressure in the early season and a heat-affected fruit set.

Vinification

Most producers reported easy, spontaneous fermentations. Due to high tannin levels, most were cautious with extraction. Punching down

was either very gentle, as at Domaine de l'Arlot, or avoided altogether, as at Domaine Rossignol-Trapet. Although tartaric acidity was good, the malic acidity was low, mostly due to the July heat, meaning malolactic fermentation was generally swift and uncomplicated. pH levels are a notch higher than in 2014 but for the most part, there is a barely perceptible difference in freshness on the palate. As Patrick Javillier noted, the relationship between pH and taste is far from linear.

And so...

2015 in Burgundy looks set to live up to our high expectations for the reds and, importantly, to exceed our more tempered expectations for the whites. There are years where the sense of fruit is in danger of overwhelming the sense of place; 2009 might spring to mind. There are other years where the fruit density is modest at best, meaning tannins may poke through here and there; 2013 perhaps. We are certainly not dealing with that in 2015.

The reason I mention these recent vintages is that, far from being at an extreme this year, we instead find ourselves in the hallowed middle ground, the point where the Burgundian deities have allowed us both grape and *terroir* expression. Yes, there is more fruit weight than in 2014, and some arch-traditionalists might raise an eyebrow at the sheer seductiveness of 2015 (although I suspect many of us rather like it). The point is that we have, above all else, balance. High *but supple* tannins and rich *but juicy* fruit in the reds. The whites are ripe *but fresh*, plump *but taut*.

And if that sounds like we are looking forward to having our cake and eating it, well... we very much are.



Guy Seddon
January 2017



WINES OFFERED IN THIS RELEASE

CHABLIS

Domaine Vincent Dampit

	See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB price per case
Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons	15	12	£195.00
Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys	15	12	£195.00
Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet	16	12	£195.00
Chablis Grand Cru Bougros Maison Dampit	16	12	£425.00

CÔTE DE NUITS

Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

	See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB price per case
Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes	21	12	£300.00
Beaune 1er Cru Les Teurons	21	12	£365.00
Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Clos Prieur	21	12	£585.00
Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Petite Chapelle	22	12	£585.00
Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru	22	6	£525.00
Chapelle-Chambertin Grand Cru	22	6	£525.00
Chambertin Grand Cru	22	6	£795.00

Domaine des Varoilles

Gevrey-Chambertin Clos du Meix des Ouches Monopole	25	6	£225.00
Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Champonnets	25	6	£265.00
Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru La Romanée Monopole	26	6	£315.00
Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Clos des Varoilles Monopole	26	6	£295.00
Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru	26	6	£475.00

Domaine de l'Arlot

Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc La Gerbotte	36	6	£180.00
Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc 1er Cru Clos de l'Arlot Monopole	36	6	£350.00
Côte de Nuits-Villages Clos du Chapeau	37	6	£140.00
Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Cuvée Mont des Oiseaux	37	6	£265.00
Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Clos de l'Arlot Monopole	37	6	£345.00
Nuits-Saint-Georges 1er Cru Clos des Forêts Saint-Georges Monopole	37	6	£340.00

CÔTE DE NUITS continued...

Domaine Gilles Jourdan

Côte de Nuits-Villages Blanc	40	12	£175.00
Bourgogne Pinot Noir Vieilles Vignes	40	12	£120.00
Côte de Nuits-Villages	40	12	£180.00
Côte de Nuits-Villages La Robignotte Monopole	40	12	£220.00

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau

Volnay	46	12	£240.00
Pommard	46	12	£240.00
Pommard 1er Cru Les Arvelets	46	12	£375.00
Santenay 1er Cru Clos Rousseau	46	12	£250.00

Domaine Lafarge

Bourgogne Passetoutgrain L'Exception	50	6	£75.00
Bourgogne Passetoutgrain L'Exception, Cuvée Spéciale Magnum	50	3	£90.00
Bourgogne Pinot Noir	50	6	£90.00
Volnay	50	6	£195.00
Volnay Vendanges Sélectionnées	50	6	£210.00
Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Aigrots	50	6	£260.00
Beaune 1er Cru Grèves	51	6	£285.00
Volnay 1er Cru Les Mitans	51	6	£425.00
Volnay 1er Cru Les Pitures Magnum	51	3	£425.00
Volnay 1er Cru Les Caillerets	51	6	£475.00
Volnay 1er Cru Clos des Chênes	51	6	£475.00
Volnay 1er Cru Clos du Château des Ducs	51	6	£475.00
Bourgogne Aligoté Raisins Dorés	52	6	£75.00
Meursault	52	6	£175.00
Meursault Vendanges Sélectionnées	52	6	£375.00
Beaune Blanc 1er Cru Clos des Aigrots	52	6	£275.00

CÔTE DE BEAUNE continued...

See Page Case size £/Offer IB price per case

Domaine Patrick Javillier

Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Serpentières	56	6	£140.00
Bourgogne Cuvée des Forgets	56	6	£80.00
Bourgogne Cuvée Oligocène	56	6	£105.00
Meursault Les Tillets	56	6	£195.00
Meursault Les Clousots	56	6	£225.00
Meursault Cuvée Tête de Murger	56	6	£325.00

Domaine Matrot

Bourgogne Pinot Noir	59	12	£150.00
Maranges Vieilles Vignes	59	12	£170.00
Maranges 1er Cru La Fussière	59	12	£225.00
Monthélie	59	12	£245.00
Meursault Rouge	59	12	£260.00
Auxey-Duresses	59	12	£245.00
Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots	60	12	£450.00
Blagny 1er Cru La Pièce sous le Bois	60	12	£475.00
Bourgogne Chardonnay	60	12	£140.00
Saint-Romain	60	12	£225.00
Meursault	61	12	£375.00
Meursault 1er Cru Blagny	61	12	£525.00
Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes	61	12	£560.00
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Chalumeaux	61	12	£560.00
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru La Quintessence	61	12	£560.00

Domaine Henri Darnat

Meursault Clos du Domaine	63	12	£275.00
Meursault 1er Cru Clos Richemont Monopole	63	12	£425.00

CÔTE CHALONNAISE

See Page Case size £/Offer IB price per case

Domaine A&P de Villaine

Mercurey Les Montots	70	6	£120.00
Bouzeron Bourgogne Aligoté	70	12	£175.00
Rully Les Saint-Jacques	70	12	£195.00

MÂCONNAIS

See Page Case size £/Offer IB price per case

Domaine Cornin

Mâcon-Chaintré Les Serreuxdières	74	12	£125.00
Pouilly-Fuissé	74	12	£170.00
Pouilly-Fuissé Les Plessys	74	12	£225.00
Pouilly-Fuissé Chevrères	74	12	£235.00

BEAUJOLAIS

See Page Case size £/Offer IB price per case

Domaine Lafarge Vial

Chiroubles	78	12	£225.00
Fleurie	78	12	£250.00
Fleurie Joie du Palais	78	12	£260.00
Fleurie Clos Vernay	78	12	£270.00

CHABLIS

Located some 100 miles north of the Côte d'Or, Chablis lies apart from the rest of Burgundy, ideologically as much as geographically. This northern outpost arguably has more in common with the Loire and Champagne, with which it shares a geological base – the Paris basin. These fossil-rich soils and the marginal climate are key to the flinty minerality at the heart of all great Chablis.



DOMAINE VINCENT DAMPT

We were fortunate enough to meet Vincent just as he was starting out. He is now into his second decade making wine, these 2015s being his eleventh vintage. Having spent time working in Puligny-Montrachet and in New Zealand, Vincent returned to the family domaine, where he makes his own wines alongside those of his father Daniel and brother Sébastien.

Vincent's vines are planted on Chablis' quintessential Kimmeridgian soils. These consist of calcareous clay, containing limestone and marlstone with fossilised marine organisms, which some would claim contributes to Chablis' hallmark minerality.

Vincent's *premiers crus* are unoaked, as is traditional. This allows the chalky *terroir* to shine. His *grand cru*, Bougros, is fermented in old oak, as befits its more powerful concentration of fruit, giving a fuller, sturdier character.

When to drink top Chablis is a subject of some debate. As always, our drinking dates are conservative. Having tasted the family's 1989 Côte de Léchet in the recent past, I am left in no doubt as to the ageing potential here. With age, these wines will develop a gently caramelised, cheesecloth character.

CHABLIS 1ER CRU VAILLONS

A bright, sherbet-infused nose with green apple peel and a nod to the tropical, then some chalky texture behind. Ripe and quite corporeal on the palate, juicy and voluminous. Fleshy stone fruit sustains the mid-palate, with more viscosity and weight than the other two *premiers crus*.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18
Recommended drinking from 2018–2021+

£195.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES LYS

The key to Les Lys is that this block, within Vaillons, is north-facing, meaning finesse and floral aromas abound. Pretty and gently floral on the nose – white flowers and cut grass, then a little cheese, which becomes more pronounced and textured with time in the glass, emitting a lovely fine perfume. On the palate, there is substantial fruit weight and extract on the attack, giving way to mineral texture, although the primary intensity persists. The finish is precise and puckering, coming to a saline point.

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2021+

£195.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS 1ER CRU CÔTE DE LÉCHET

Always the first of Vincent's *premiers crus* to achieve ripeness, being south-east facing. Vincent believes this to be the *premier cru* with the greatest ageing potential. A layered, chalky mineral nose, through which a seam of fine perfume escapes. Lithe and racy in the mouth, which has lime zest and some green melon upfront, then grippy phenolics on the back palate. Crisp acidity pervades the palate, refreshing and lifting the delicate citric flavours. Precise finish. This is a little more hidden than the others at present, meaning the score here may well be conservative.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2021+

£195.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS GRAND CRU BOUGROS, MAISON DAMPT

This is the only of Vincent's wines to see oak, being vinified in two to four-year old 228 litre barrels. A much more assertive proposition, with a wave of ripe green melon and zesty citrus greeting you on the nose. Rather excitingly flamboyant! Exuberant fruit on the palate, ripe citrus and some tropical character being centre-stage. There is certainly structure and texture here but it needs time for the fruit to overcome the impetuosity of youth.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2019–2023+

£425.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



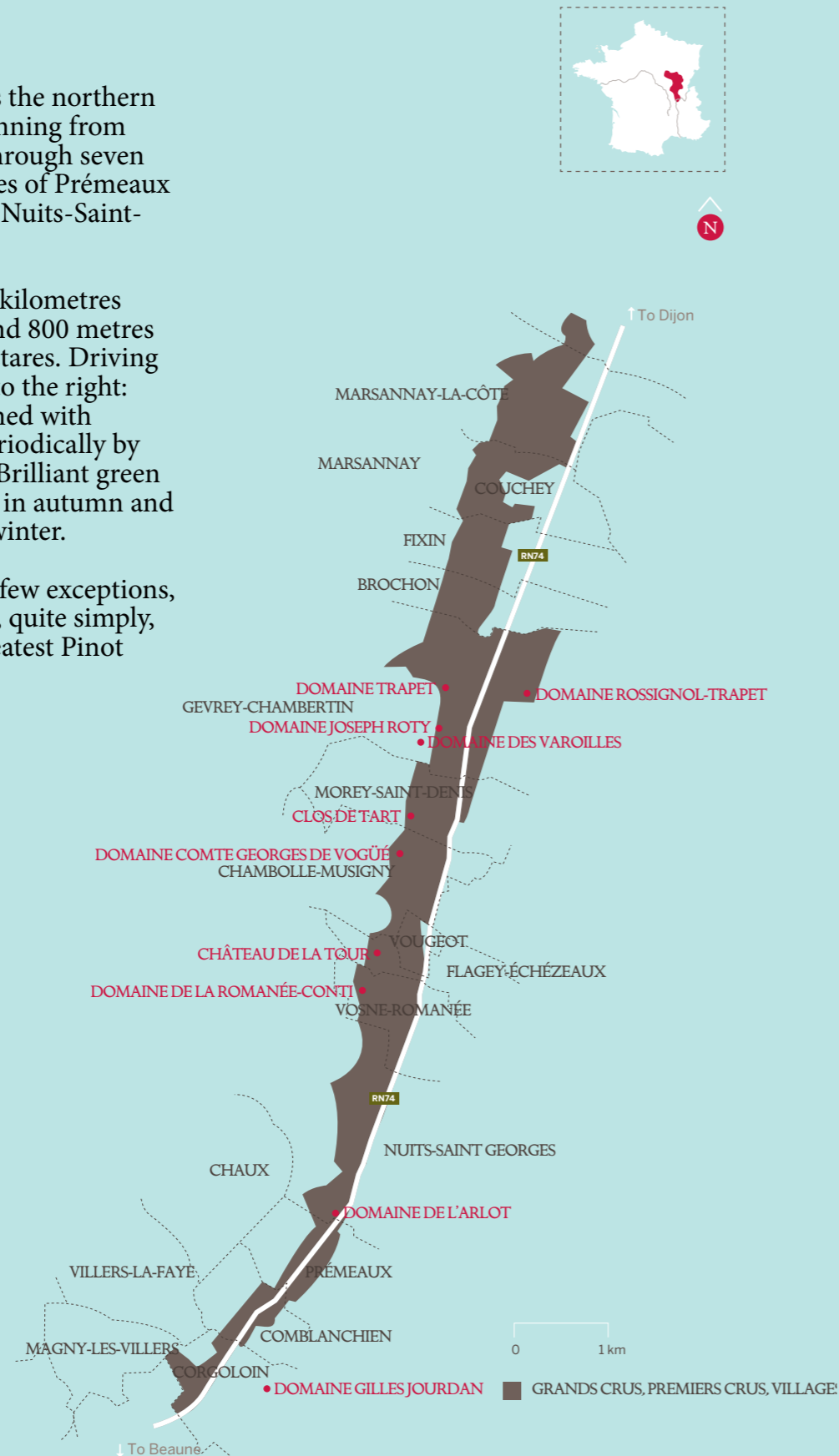
CÔTE DE NUITS

The Côte de Nuits forms the northern half of the Côte d'Or, running from the outskirts of Dijon, through seven communes, to the villages of Prémieux and Corgoloin, south of Nuits-Saint-Georges.

The region is around 20 kilometres long and between 200 and 800 metres wide. It covers 3,600 hectares. Driving south from Dijon, look to the right: you will see slopes adorned with vineyards, broken up periodically by barren, rocky outcrops. Brilliant green in summer, intense gold in autumn and forebodingly barren in winter.

The Côte de Nuits, with few exceptions, is red wine country. It is, quite simply, home to many of the greatest Pinot Noirs of the world.

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GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN

Gevrey-Chambertin is a large commune comprising 410 hectares, stretching from Brochon in the north, to Morey-Saint-Denis in the south. A mix of *terroir*, with patches of limestone contributing to the complexity of the best Gevreys and to the great variety of styles. Only red wines may be labelled Gevrey-Chambertin.

DOMAINE TRAPET

Jean-Louis Trapet is cousin of the Rossignol-Trapets. The domaines are a stone's throw from one another. Following the union by marriage of the Rossignol and the Trapet families, the Trapet holdings were split, as related on page 21.

The domaine is biodynamic and practises partial destemming. Jean-Louis, the seventh winemaking generation, is married to Andrée, from Alsace. They now split their time between Alsace and Gevrey-Chambertin, also running Andrée's family domaine in Alsace, Domaine Trapet Alsace.

Corney & Barrow is the exclusive UK agent for Domaine Trapet. The 2015 vintage was released in a standalone offer in December 2016.



Jean-Louis & Andrée Trapet

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[VIEW 2015 DOMAINE TRAPET OFFER](#)
[CLICK HERE](#)



Domaine Rossignol-Trapet

DOMAINE ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET

The Rossignols of Volnay were linked by marriage to the Trapet family when Jacques Rossignol married Jean-Louis Trapet's aunt, Mado. The original Trapet holdings were split when the sons of both families – David and Nicolas Rossignol and Jean-Louis Trapet – returned from their studies.

Domaine Rossignol-Trapet was established in 1990. In 2005 Nicolas and David began the conversion to biodynamic viticulture. The wines of today are imbued with a greater purity and concentration and the vines themselves are healthier and stronger. The vineyards were officially certified organic and biodynamic in 2008. These are classical Gevrees, built for medium term ageing.

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET

Following a sunny, warm, even spring, an early flowering passed largely without incident. The exceptions were the *grands crus*, where rapid budding led to small bunches.

Summer was particularly dry. *Véraison* (colour change) started on the 13th July 2015 but barely progressed until the beginning of August. A rainstorm did the trick, accelerating *véraison*, which then shot through in a matter of days. This brought the growing season timetable back in line with the norm.

Harvest, under a radiant sun, was effected in the first fortnight of September. There was no sunburn or botrytis in 2015. The berries reached a uniform maturity, which made for a smooth transition to the cellar.

Owing to the high grape tannin levels, no punching down was carried out. Around 50% whole bunches were used, making the most of the ripe, supple stems. Malolactic fermentation was quick, ending by the end of 2015. Nicolas and David are rightly proud of the natural extract in these wines, as well as their breadth on the palate.

“The 2015 vintage: a dry year, easy for the vigneron and serene in the cellars!”

Nicolas Rossignol | November 2016

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN VIEILLES VIGNES

Dark fruit and some bitter chocolate on the nose, leading into a rigorous, chiselled palate which builds and fleshes out in the mouth. Excellent structure, which will need time to loosen and meld. I suspect this will be a charmer in time. The vines are 40-80 years old, planted in 8 different parcels.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2020–2026

£300.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

BEAUNE 1ER CRU LES TEURONS

Dark and savoury on the attack and then close behind comes a lovely bright red fruit character. Great juxtaposition of fruit sweetness and supple, enveloping tannins. We say it every year but Beaune continues to be underrated and undervalued – a smart buy!

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2020–2028

£365.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU CLOS PRIEUR

From a plot planted in 1986, just down the slope and across the road from Mazis-Chambertin. A lean, pared down style, this is savoury and chiselled. Its usual flamboyance is waiting in the wings however, ready to blossom. More than enough dense dark brambly fruit here to ensure development.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030+

£585.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU PETITE CHAPELLE

More sweet red fruit here, rose petals and with a lovely silky texture to the mid-palate. Fine detailed tannins. Usually more introvert than Clos Prieur at this stage but this showed really well. Very clayey soil, giving more density, for which reason Nicolas and David never do *pigeage* (punching down) on their Petite Chapelle. In 2015, this approach was extended to all wines, as the vintage had more than enough phenolic matter.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030+

£585.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

22 Violets and rose petals on the nose, with a fine savoury seam – a wonderfully classical nose. Playful and lithe on the palate, with darker fruits, and wonderfully weightless, allowing perfume to fill the mouth. This displays a finesse and elegance which is really breathtaking, but it has its feet on the ground too – power and structure beneath. Nicolas noted that Latricières is always the most open of the *grands crus*. Situated at the same level on the slope as Chambertin, on similar soils. One parcel here dates from the 1930s and another was planted after the 1956 frost.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030+

£525.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

CHAPELLE-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

This is a warm site, directly below Clos de Bèze, with a mere 50 centimetres of soil above the rock. Earlier maturity than the other *grands crus* – only by around two days, but when you can gain 0.25% potential alcohol per day at the end of the season, this is not insignificant! Crunchy red fruit with a rounded sweetness which is immediately appealing, offset against a saline, mineral aspect. Really very open and attractive, this will give huge pleasure.

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030+

£525.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

A detailed, dark fruited, mineral nose, leading into a very finely textured palate, whose tannins are filigree but open-weave, leaving the dark, powerful berry fruit in immediate reach. A very accessible Chambertin at present, with lovely perfume and violets filling the mouth. This comes from two parcels, imaginatively called ‘north’ and ‘south’.

Corney & Barrow Score 19
Recommended drinking from 2023–2033+

£795.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK





Gilbert Hammel

DOMAINE DES VAROILLES

Domaine des Varoilles combines a number of spectacular vineyards from *village* to *grand cru* level. The arrival of Gilbert Hammel in 1990 marked a turning point for the domaine. Gilbert, of Swiss descent, has made Domaine des Varoilles a go-to producer of a succulent, rounded and supremely approachable style of Gevrey-Chambertin. The Varoilles holdings include two very special *premiers crus monopoles*, La Romanée and Clos des Varoilles.

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE DES VAROILLES

Despite a low number of clusters emerging at budbreak, flowering was uncomplicated and allowed the majority to fertilise, leading to good fruit set.

The months of May, June and July were very hot, with Gilbert reporting temperatures over 40°C on occasion. The vines suffered from lack of water, the leaves wrinkling, complicating *véraison*. Heavy rains in the first fortnight of August were much needed. The dry and warm weather returned in the second fortnight of August with maturity increasing rapidly, meaning picking began on the 7th September. This was the earliest harvest since 2003.

The quality of the grapes was exceptional, perfectly healthy and with high potential alcohol. The malolactic fermentation occurred late, which Gilbert commented is always positive for stability of his wines. Quantities were however small, with yields of only 29 hectolitres per hectare, or 50% less than in a normal year. Gilbert experimented with a lower level of toast on a proportion of his barrels this year.

“A small harvest, wines of exceptional quality, the best vintage of the last 20 years! Colour, fruit and structure intersect perfectly.”

Gilbert Hammel | October 2016

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN CLOS DU MEIX DES OUCHES, MONOPOLE

This small parcel, just one hectare of ‘*village*’ wine, is a *monopole*. The soil here resembles 1er Cru Champonnets its neighbour, from which it is separated by a narrow road. There is 10% new oak in this, as usual. A wonderfully expressive nose of ripe raspberries and strawberries. If someone has never tasted Gevrey-Chambertin before, give them a glass of this – it will have them hooked for life...

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2023+

£225.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU CHAMPONNETS

This is a 0.7 hectare plot which is even more stony than neighbouring Clos du Meix des Ouches – making for refined minerality throughout. Lifted, perfumed black fruits – forest fruits and undergrowth, but beautifully clean and pure. There is a lot more tannic grip on the attack, leading into a rigorous mid-palate which is nonetheless sweet fruited and exuberant. A big wine, which should age gracefully. 15% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2018–2026

£265.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU LA ROMANÉE MONOPOLE

This, the highest of the Domaine's vineyards, just above the Clos des Varoilles, comprises one hectare of vines, with an average age of around 60 years. The soil is very shallow here, over a gravel and limestone bedrock, naturally low-yielding. Dark, supple and juicy, this is so alluring, flamboyant even. I can imagine the purists thinking it a touch 'obvious', but if they can get beyond the lush fruit, there is a world of texture and nuance to be discovered here. Perhaps the best Romanée I have tasted from Varoilles. Only 12 barrels were made in 2015, at 20 hl/ha. 30% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5
Recommended drinking from 2020–2028+

£315.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU CLOS DES VAROILLES MONOPOLE

26 Just down the slope from La Romanée, this 6-hectare vineyard produces a very different style of wine. More red fruited in character, with crushed parma violets and a supple, generous palate. The tannins here are gorgeously malleable, coated in sweet perfumed red fruit. This has power and drive, really very complete. 30% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030+

£295.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU

50% new oak, 50% one year old – a little less new oak than last year. This is a single 0.8 hectare parcel, opposite Latricières, on a small slope. Dark fruited and gently smoky on the nose, finely nuanced. The palate is powerful and strident, although the tannins only kick in from the mid-palate, giving you a glimpse of beautifully ripe, supple dark fruit which will re-emerge and meld in due course

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2022–2032+

£475.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

DOMAINE JOSEPH ROTY

This is a 'late release domaine', so our upcoming offer will be of the 2014 vintage.

Domaine Roty is a tiny estate in the heart of Gevrey-Chambertin whose hallmark is elegance, richness and underlying, understated power. The late Joseph Roty, a large personality who was renowned for chain-smoking through tastings, was succeeded by his son Philippe in 2008, although Philippe had run the domaine for several years previously.

Philippe himself sadly died last year aged 46, meaning 2014 was his final vintage. He had been increasingly assisted by his brother Pierre-Jean, who is now running the domaine, in close partnership with his mother. We tasted the 2014s with Pierre-Jean and are pleased to report they are both beautifully classical and bristling with energy.

The wines will be released towards the end of January 2017.

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MOREY-SAINT-DENIS

After Vougeot, Morey-Saint-Denis is the smallest village of the Côte de Nuits, with just 150 hectares of vines. Somewhat under the radar compared to its neighbours, Gevrey-Chambertin to the north and Chambolle-Musigny to the south, it aspires to balance, whilst certainly displaying some of the power of Gevrey. The *grands crus* here are Clos des Lambrays, Clos de la Roche, Clos St-Denis and Clos de Tart. Perhaps the abundance of walled vineyards speaks to the insular nature of this alluring but enigmatic village.

CLOS DE TART

The walled vineyard of Clos de Tart is situated at the very heart of Morey-Saint-Denis, one of five *grands crus* within the village and, under sole ownership, a *monopole*. 7.53 hectares in size, it traces its history back to 1141, since when there have only been three owners. The current owners are the Mommessin family, who purchased the domaine in 1932. Jacques Devauges is the *régisseur*, following Sylvain Pitiot's retirement last year.

Clos de Tart is one of only seven *grands crus monopoles* in France, five of which are in Burgundy (the others being Romanée-Conti, La Tâche, La Romanée and La Grande Rue).

The 2015 will be released in April 2017. Corney & Barrow is exclusive UK agent.

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CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY

As hackneyed as the expression is, Chambolle-Musigny is the quintessential iron fist in a velvet glove. Perfumed and delicate on the nose, before the cavalry charges in on the palate, Chambolle at its best reconciles the ephemeral and the earthly.

Its two *grands crus* are Musigny and Les Bonnes Mares, which lie at opposite ends of the village. The principal *premier cru* is arguably Les Amoureuses.

DOMAINE COMTE GEORGES DE VOGÜÉ

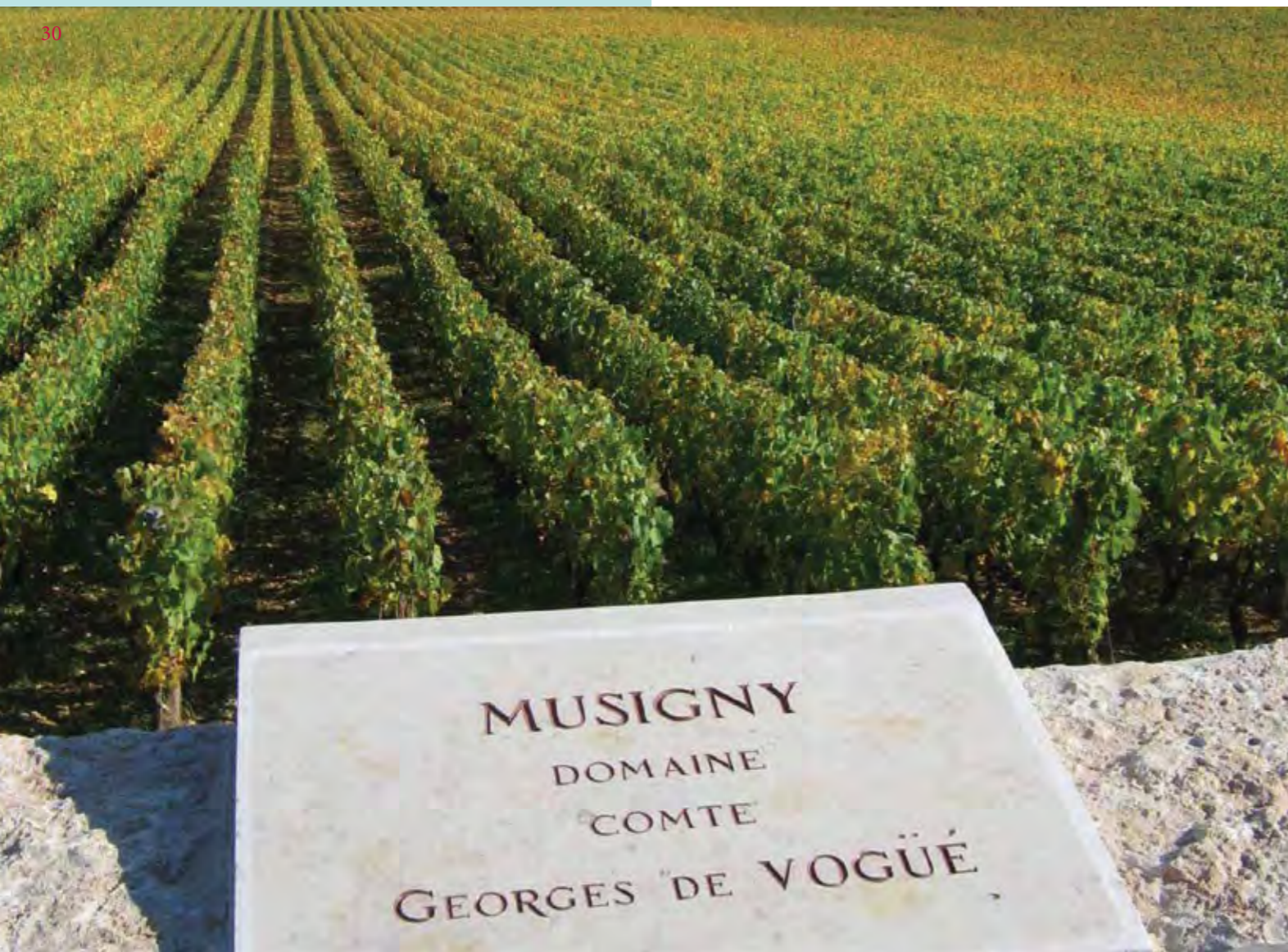
Domaine Comte Georges de Vogüé is the largest holder of the Musigny vineyard by some distance, owning 7.12 hectares of the total 10.85. De Vogüé is a producer of reference in Chambolle-Musigny, making a weightless yet flavour-packed style.

Established in 1450, the current owners are Comtesse Claire de Causans and Marie de Ladoucette. The team comprises the poetical François Millet (technical director), Eric Bourgogne (vineyard manager) and Jean-Luc Pépin (sales and marketing director).

The 2015s will be released in March 2017. Corney & Barrow is exclusive UK agent.



François Labet



CLOS DE VOUGEOT

The Clos de Vougeot is a historically important 50 hectare plot, bestowed with *grand cru* status in its entirety. Beneath this rather broadbrush approach to classification lie nuanced variations in quality, meaning here even more than elsewhere in Burgundy, it really matters which Clos de Vougeot you buy.

We think we have a rather good one...

CHÂTEAU DE LA TOUR

Château de la Tour, established in 1890, is the largest proprietor of the Clos de Vougeot. Family owned, there are six hectares of vines, some 12% of the appellation. The vines are in two parcels close to the château building, which is one of only three buildings in the Clos de Vougeot. The vines having an average age of 50 years.

The property is owned by Jacqueline Labet and Nicole Déchelette, mother and aunt respectively of François Labet, who makes the wines.

We are exclusive agents for Château de la Tour and François' own wines (see page 44) in the UK and Singapore. The wines of both domains will be released in March 2017.



Aubert de Villaine

VOSNE-ROMANÉE

The most prestigious address in the Côte de Nuits? La Romanée-Conti is the bull's-eye of this charmed village, with a gaggle of *grands crus* vineyards clustered around it, including La Tâche, Les Gaudichots, La Grande Rue, La

Romanée, Les Richebourgs and Romanée-Saint-Vivant. The adjacent commune of Flagey-Échezeaux houses the Échezeaux vineyards before giving way to Clos de Vougeot to the north.

“It would indeed be interesting to know of any vineyard in the whole world of which Romanée-Conti, at its best, does not take precedence.”

George Saintsbury (Notes on a Cellar Book)

DOMAINE DE LA ROMANÉE-CONTI

Located in the wonderfully named Rue du Temps Perdu, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti is part of the very fabric of Burgundy. It is often referred to as simply “the Domaine”, the definite article sufficing for a property which so many aspire to.

The Domaine is co-directed by Aubert de Villaine and Henry-Frédéric Roch. All of the holdings are *grands crus*, although a *premier cru* is also released in certain years. Corney & Barrow is the exclusive UK agent for Domaine de la Romanée-Conti.

Following the confiscation of the vineyards of Prince de Conti during the French Revolution, the domaine was acquired by Monsieur Duvault-Blochet in 1869. La Tâche was acquired in 1933. Romanée-Saint-Vivant was managed from 1966, being purchased outright in 1988. A Corton has been made since 2009, from three plots on which the domaine has a long term lease.

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti now owns in entirety the vineyards of Romanée-Conti and La Tâche, half of Richebourg, a third of Grands

Echézeaux, a seventh of Échezeaux and more than half of Romanée-Saint-Vivant. Its only white wine is Le Montrachet.

The domaine is totally biodynamic. When vines need replacing, cuttings are taken from a selection of vines within the Romanée-Conti vineyard. To minimise soil compaction, horses cultivate the vineyards of Romanée-Conti and Le Montrachet. In the cellar, an average of 60% whole bunches is used, along with 100% new oak. There is no filtration and barely any fining.

The two Échezeaux are generously fruited, with Romanée-Saint-Vivant more elegantly perfumed. Richebourg is rich and dark-fruited and broadly structured. La Tâche has even greater intensity and depth of colour. Romanée-Conti itself combines intensity and supreme elegance. The domaine's Montrachet is both extrovert and tense. In certain years, a young vine *cuvée* is made, Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru, *Cuvée Duvault-Blochet*.

The wines of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti are released once bottled, meaning 2014 will be the next en primeur vintage release, in February 2017. Due to very high levels of demand, these wines are on strict allocation.

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES

Nuits-Saint-Georges is the most southerly of the famous Côte de Nuits appellations. It is also the town from which the Côte de Nuits takes its name. As is the way in Burgundy, the town of Nuits appended the name of the best-known local vineyard, the *premier cru* Les Saint-Georges.

Nuits-Saint-Georges has extremely varied soils and aspects, comprising a substantial 300 hectares of vines, 142 of which are *premiers crus*. This is an appellation without *grand cru*, perhaps surprisingly for its renown. Known for red wines, there are in fact seven hectares dedicated to white wine production.

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DOMAINE DE L'ARLOT

Domaine de l'ArLOT is a fourteen hectare property in the commune of Prémieux-Prissey, just south of the town of Nuits-Saint-Georges. It has been biodynamic since 2003. 2015 is the first vintage wholly made by Géraldine Godot, technical director and successor to Jacques Devauges, now of Clos de Tart.

The level of detail provided by Géraldine on the growing season – both in writing and in person – speaks volumes about her approach to wine production. Domaine de l'ArLOT would appear to be in safe hands.

Domaine de l'ArLOT is owned by AXA Millésimes, the wine division of the insurance company, as part of a portfolio which also includes Quinta do Noval in the Douro and the Bordeaux Châteaux Suduiraut, Petit-Village and Pichon-Longueville.

The flagship here is Clos de l'ArLOT, a wholly-owned *monopole* adjacent to the domaine, planted with both Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE DE L'ARLOT

After a wet autumn in 2014, came a mild winter. Spring was then dry, enabling preparation of the soil for replanting the lower section of Clos de l'ArLOT. Warm, summery temperatures started as early as April, alternating with cool, rainy periods. The vines developed at a steady rate, with a high susceptibility to mildew early in the season. This persisted until July and required the attentive and continuous effort of the team to prevent it from taking hold.

Flowering began at the end of May, becoming widespread from early June. Rapid development was brought on by some rain in the second week of June, which turned out to be the warmest June since 2003, causing poor fruit set in some plots.

Grape ripening started in mid-July, with temperatures exceeding 35°C. Beneficial rain arrived at the end of the month, but drought conditions nevertheless persisted, and ripening continued to be earlier than usual. August saw a return of the rain and more normal temperatures.

L'ArLOT's team of thirty harvesters picked the Chardonnay and Pinot Beurot grapes on the 3rd and 4th September, then from the 4th to 9th September the Pinot Noir, all under fine conditions. The grapes were sound and healthy. There was little need for sorting and phenolic maturity was excellent. Potential alcohol was close to 13°.

It soon became apparent that volumes were small—similar to those of the 2010 vintage. Compared with 2014, whilst volumes for whites were slightly up, red wines volumes were down by 16%, with an average yield of 24 hectolitres per hectare.

Fermentation in the vats was simple and spontaneous. From the very first days of maceration, the juice of the red grapes had a good colour and notes of fruits. Punching down was gentle in order to allow silky tannins to develop. Pumping over was combined with aeration to allow the fruity flavours to develop. The juice was drawn off the skins after 18-20 days in vat. The whites started their alcoholic fermentation slowly in the vats and completed it in barrels.

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Domaine de l'ArLOT

“2015 is one of the most precocious vintages of the past few years. The dry, summery weather enabled us to pick the grapes at optimal maturity, although again this year the yield was small.”

Géraldine Godot | November 2016

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LA GERBOTTE BLANC

Made from the young vines behind the domaine, this is a voluntarily declassified *premier cru* – it could form part of Clos de l’Arlot Blanc. Fermented in barrel before being aged in 20% new oak, this is a poised, harmonious wine, at ease with itself. Those ‘young’ vines are two decades old, after all, making this a good value buy. Gentle pastry and stone fruit, with attractive zippy acidity.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2018–2022

£180.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CLOS DE L’ARLOT BLANC MONOPOLE

From grapes grown on the steeply sloping amphitheatre of Clos de l’Arlot, perhaps explaining the greater structure and rigour in this *premier cru*. This white’s superiority is immediately apparent in its elevated richness and density. 20% new oak here too, which is all but imperceptible. While white Nuits-Saint-Georges may be a rarity, it is one well worth discovering.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2019–2023

£350.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

CÔTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES CLOS DU CHAPEAU

Forest fruits on the nose, with some creamy density and a touch of forest floor. Supple but weighty on the palate, very impressive. The tannins are substantial but elegant and rounded. Géraldine mentioned that as the tannins were so naturally abundant, just 2-3 punch-downs were sufficient here.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5
Recommended drinking from 2017–2022

£140.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CUVÉE MONT DES OISEAUX

These vines are 15 years old now, so this is reclassified as a *premier cru*. A step up in density and sucrosity from the Clos du Chapeau. Whether it is vine age or the touch of a new winemaker (or in all honesty, possibly just the stage of development), this has a more red fruited, brighter character than in years past. Very attractive and how exciting to pick this up from its first vintage as a reincarnated *premier cru*.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2026

£265.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CLOS DE L’ARLOT MONOPOLE

A dark, smoky nose, as is so often the case with young Clos de l’Arlot, always reminding me of an elemental phase of creation. But then the palate opens out delightfully, with juicy sweet red fruit. Very immediate, ripe raspberries, underscored by a beautiful minerality and crisply defined tannins. Rose petals linger on the fine finish. Once it settles, this is going to be phenomenal.

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2030+

£345.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1ER CRU CLOS DES FORÊTS SAINT-GEORGES MONOPOLE

An immediately ‘serious’ nose, black-fruited, leading into a palate with quite persistent tannic grip. This is trademark Nuits-Saint-Georges, a dark rocky core and then soaring perfume above. Clos de l’Arlot is by contrast more red-fruited and supple. This is certainly a wine for ageing but patience will be repaid. For the first time, this includes fruit previously destined for Les Petits Plets, the vines of which are now old enough to warrant inclusion in this flagship *cuvée*.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2022–2032+

£340.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK



DOMAINE GILLES JOURDAN

Domaine Gilles Jourdan is located in the sleepy village of Corgoloin, well off the beaten track. There are just five hectares, including a *monopole*, La Robignotte, which is a blue marl slope, adjacent to the small track which winds its way up into the Hautes-Côtes.

Gilles' cellar is tiny. A central garage-like space is crammed with bottling equipment and a small tasting table, with a cellar to one side used to store bottled wines and whilst the other contains the most recent vintage in barrel. Despite the small scale here, Gilles has 40 pickers to call upon at harvest. He tends to harvest later than his neighbours, as demanded by his older, low production vines.

“We harvested rather late [compared to others] in 2015, on the 11th September. This helped bring out the character of these 2015s, which are rich, round wines, but with crunchy fruit. It is interesting to have a vintage whose wines can be drunk young but can just as easily be cellared.”

Gilles Jourdan | October 2016

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE GILLES JOURDAN

Flowering occurred at the beginning of June, with *véraison* in mid-July and picking starting on the 11th September. Everything was quick, as dictated by the weather. The uniform quality of the crop and the exceptional concentration herald what Gilles bullishly called “*un millésime légendaire*”. The only detractor in 2015 was the low volumes of red wines. Overall yields in 2015 were 35 hectolitres per hectare, compared to an average of 42. As Gilles pointed out with a sigh, 2016 was even more paltry, but more of that next year – in the meantime, stock up!

CÔTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES BLANC

This is a young vineyard – just over a decade old – planted mid-slope on limestone, with a little clay in the mix. Around 10% new oak here, which adds a subtle toastiness to the palate and rounds out the ripe fruit. Gilles tasted this with clear enjoyment, allowing himself a reflective “*c’est joli ça*”.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2021

£175.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR VIEILLES VIGNES

This is made from just one parcel, 1.8 hectares in size, of around 70 year old vines. Crunchy red berries, fresh and zippy, with a lovely depth and nice ripe tannins. 10% whole bunches here, which is unusual for Gilles, but he says he is happy with the results and indeed it gives a nice sappy lift.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2021+

£120.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CÔTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES

A blend of three parcels. Darker berries here – forest fruits, which are polished and resoundingly ripe, with *crème de cassis*. 10% new oak adds a little body and texture to this honest, textured wine which speaks eloquently of its origin. For a well-priced personality-filled wine, you will struggle to beat this.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17
Recommended drinking from 2018–2022+

£180.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CÔTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES LA ROBIGNOTTE MONOPOLE

Gilles Jourdan is the sole owner of this exceptional little parcel of blue marl, which is less than one hectare in size. Perfumed on the nose – rose petals and a hint of violet – with some bitter chocolate beneath, this is up to its usual high standard... in fact it exceeded our hopes. The tannins are fine and channel the polished, juicy mid palate fruit towards a precise finish with lingering perfume. No artifice, just a thoroughbred example of true Burgundian heritage. Only 3,000 bottles were made.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2018–2026+

£220.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



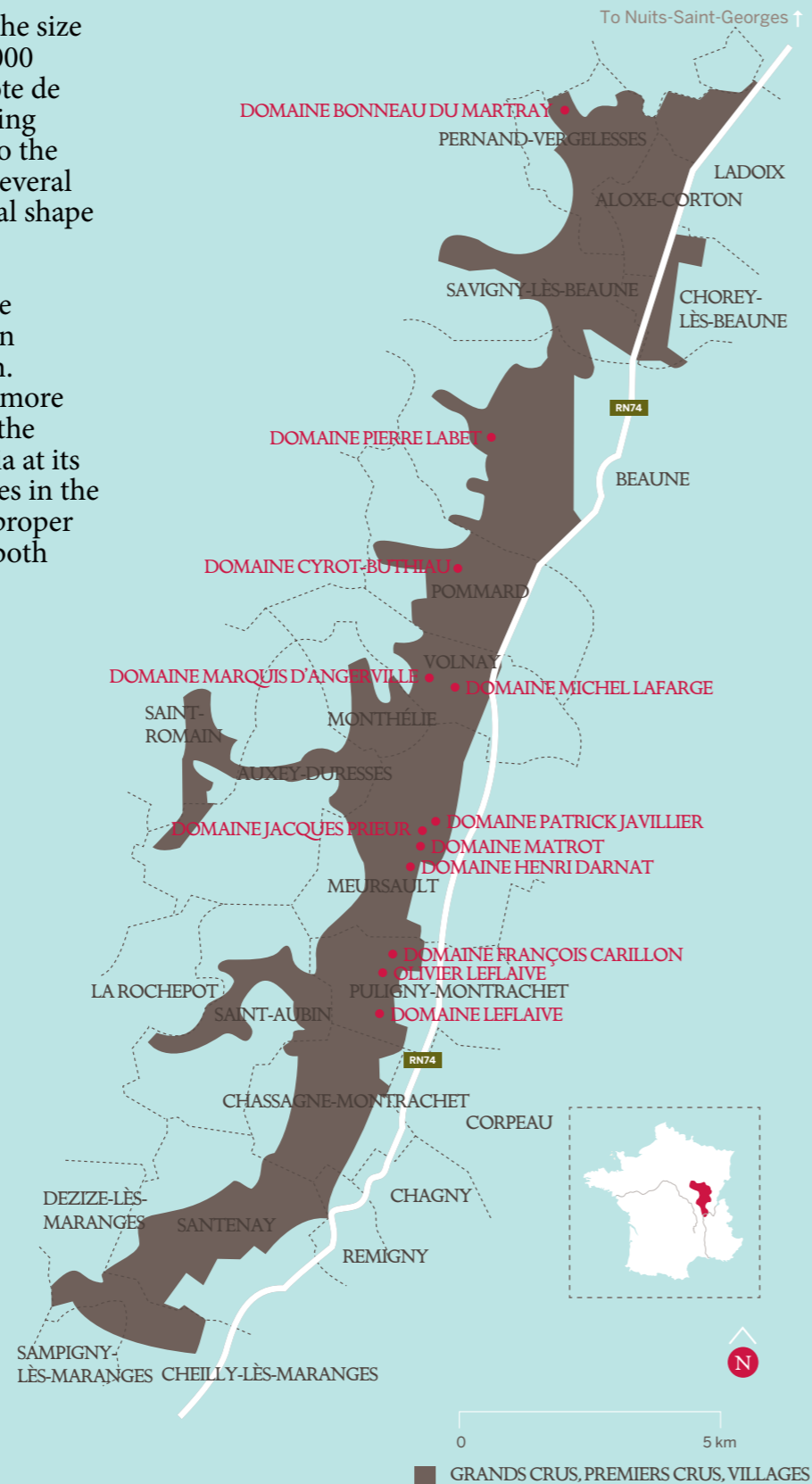
Gilles Jourdan

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

The Côte de Beaune is almost twice the size of the Côte de Nuits, with around 6,000 hectares under vine. Whereas the Côte de Nuits is an elongated strip of east facing slopes, the gradient rising steeply into the hills above, the Côte de Beaune has several side valleys, making it more of an oval shape on a map.

Travelling north to south, the Côte de Beaune makes a dramatic entrance, in the shape of the iconic Hill of Corton. This southern region is certainly the more rugged half of the Côte d'Or. Whilst the Côte de Nuits encroaches on suburbia at its northern extreme and marble quarries in the south, the Côte de Beaune feels like proper countryside. The appellation covers both white and red wines.

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CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE & CORTON

Three villages lay claim to the *grand cru* Corton-Charlemagne and Corton appellations: Aloxe-Corton, Ladoix-Serrigny and Pernand-Vergelesses. Corton-Charlemagne is a white wine appellation, half of which consists of the Charlemagne and En Charlemagne vineyards. Corton is a red wine appellation. Growers may attach the name of a specific *lieu-dit* (such as Corton Bressandes or Corton Clos du Roi), or can make a generic Corton from a blend of vineyards.

DOMAINE BONNEAU DU MARTRAY

Look at almost any image of the unmistakable hill of Corton and you will, essentially, be looking at the Bonneau du Martray estate. With 9.5 hectares in one block, this is the largest single vineyard holding in the Pernand-Vergelesses appellation and is the same piece of land which was given to the Abbey of Saulieu by Emperor Charlemagne in 775.

Domaine Bonneau du Martray is owned by the Le Bault de la Morinière family, only the third owners in twelve centuries. Jean-Charles Le Bault de la Morinière took over in 1994. Domaine Bonneau du Martray makes just two wines, both *grand cru*: Corton-Charlemagne (white) and Corton (red).

Corney & Barrow is the exclusive UK agent for Domaine Bonneau du Martray. We are in the privileged position of being the only market to be offered the wines before they are bottled. The 2015s were released in November 2016.

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VIEW 2015 DOMAINE BONNEAU DU MARTRAY OFFER

[CLICK HERE](#)

BEAUNE

Beaune is a large appellation and, sharing its name with the urban nucleus of the Côte d'Or, tends to confuse people. Add to that the nearby appellations of Savigny-lès-Beaune and Chorey-lès-Beaune (the 'lès' signifying 'close to') and you can see the unfortunate extent of Beaune's image problem.

The good news is that with some guidance, you can still find some bargains here. The Beaune wines of Domaine Lafarge and Domaine Rossignol-Trapet should not be missed (see pages 49 and 21 respectively), whilst Domaine Pierre Labet has the most extensive Beaune holdings of our growers.

DOMAINE PIERRE LABET

In addition to overseeing Château de La Tour in the Clos de Vougeot, François Labet owns holdings in Beaune, Meursault and Gevrey-Chambertin. These wines are produced organically and although François has an operational base in Beaune, *élevage* takes place in Château de la Tour's cellars in the Clos de Vougeot.

Corney & Barrow represents these wines exclusively in the UK and Singapore. They will be released in March 2017.



Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau



Domaine Pierre Labet

POMMARD

Pommard used to be the fashionable sibling of nearby Volnay, its clay soils making for a more corporeal, muscular style than Volnay's delicate, ephemeral wines. Changing tastes mean the tables have turned somewhat, but a handful of quality producers are making exciting wines. As a red wine enclave in white wine country, Pommard is underrated and consequently well worth exploring.

DOMAINE CYROT-BUTHIAU

Marc-Emmanuel and Olivier Cyrot are the fourth winemaking generation of this family domaine. They own six hectares of vines across Pommard, Volnay, Santenay and Maranges.

In admirable ecological fashion, the cellars of Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau are dug into the side of a rocky escarpment, under a vineyard in Pommard. The wines are made traditionally: harvested by hand, de-stemmed and cold-macerated before fermentation.

VOLNAY

A pretty nose of red perfume and some candied, crystallised red berries. Lovely bright, sweet fruit on the fore palate, medium bodied and with a textured, fine tannic grip. Sucrosity persists on the finish. Good Volnay typicity, perhaps with a nod to its Pommard producer origins.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

£240.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POMMARD

A blend of several parcels on the Volnay side of Pommard. Bitter cherry and shiny dark berries on the nose, with some undergrowth and pepper. Grippy tannins upfront on the palate, which is medium weighted and juicy on the attack, becoming more muscular towards the back palate.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17
Recommended drinking from 2021–2025

£240.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau



Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau

POMMARD 1ER CRU LES ARVELETS

Les Arvelets is a sloping south facing site, giving high ripeness levels. A lovely bright, sweet red-fruited nose, aromatic and gently sappy. Juicy red candied fruit on the palate, with firm but fine tannins from the mid-palate onwards, becoming grippy and muscular on the finish. Very much a Pommard, with the structure that implies, but with enough flesh and acid lift to be approachable.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2022–2027

£375.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

SANTENAY 1ER CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU

Ripe, lifted bitter cherry on the nose. Cool but dense blackberries on the palate, which is slightly pithy, with nice juicy acidity. The tannins kick in on the back-palate, but they are unobtrusive, just needing a chance to soften. Give this two to three years in the cellar and then enjoy.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

£250.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



VOLNAY

Silky, seductive, beguiling and ethereal. Volnay can be all of these things.

Most closely associated with Chambolle-Musigny in aromatic quality, these wines soar. A relatively small commune, Volnay lies between Pommard and Meursault. The vineyard slopes, facing east and south, descend steeply, before inclining more gently towards the road below. The soils are marls, with a bedrock of limestone.

There is a fabulous restaurant in Volnay with panoramic views over the vines. I can think of worse ways to spend a lunchtime than with a bottle, looking out over the gold autumnal slopes from whence it came.

DOMAINE LAFARGE

“Despite having 80% of a crop for whites and 50% for reds, 2015 has turned out to be a very, very good vintage for both reds and whites.”

Frédéric Lafarge | October 2016

Domaine Lafarge traces its history back to the early 19th century, the iconic Clos du Château des Ducs being bought by Michel’s grandfather in 1900. The first wines bottled at the domaine in 1934 included the Clos des Chênes, the domaine’s largest Volnay *premier cru* holding and arguably the wine for which it is most famous. Michel started working with his father in 1949, with his son Frédéric joining in 1978.

Winemaking is conventional, with whites pressed in whole bunches and reds 100% destemmed. Michel and Frédéric converted to biodynamic viticulture in 1996 and the domaine is now at the forefront of the movement. There is nothing showy here, to which a visit to the mould-covered cellars will attest. The wines are pure, age-worthy and yet quite beautifully delicate.

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE LAFARGE

Despite a low number of clusters following budbreak, flowering was very good. Rain in mid-June allowed ripening to progress without undue hydric stress. Quantities in 2015 are small due to poor fruit set leading to a paucity of buds, in addition to the cumulative stress on the vines over the previous three years.

BOURGOGNE PASSETOUTGRAIN L'EXCEPTION

This is 50% Pinot Noir, 50% Gamay, inter-planted. The two varieties tend to reach maturity at the same time. These are very old vines – 88 years old. Bright red berries, with a darker, bitter cherry character. Good complexity this year. This is a staff favourite for a good reason!

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£75.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE PASSETOUTGRAIN L'EXCEPTION CUVÉE SPÉCIALE - NEW

This is a foot-trodden special *cuvée* of the above wine, destemmed by hand. Just one barrel was made in this way, in the style used at the domaine until the 1920s. Frédéric was thinking of bottling this separately in magnum when we visited and we are delighted that he has decided to go ahead. More immediacy of fruit, more suppleness, both denser and brighter than the normal *cuvée*. Having said that, I preferred this, whilst Joe Muller preferred the other – so take your pick!

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5++
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£90.00/case of 3 magnum, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR

This wine is from four low-lying plots of vines between the village of Volnay and the road. Bright red cherry, this is always good but this year seems to have a special energy and luminosity. It is slightly ridiculous that a humble Bourgogne Pinot Noir can be this good and exhibit such Volnay typicity. No kitchen wine rack should be without this!

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£90.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY

Lovely bright red berries and perfume on the nose. Super concentrated on the palate, for a village Volnay. Rare to have such a depth of fruit concentration but without hiding the stamp of the terroir. Michel Lafarge apparently compared this to 1929 – a “mythical vintage” of his youth. The tannins are beautifully supple and fruit-coated.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2025

£195.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY VENDANGES SÉLECTIONNÉES

Four different plots, below the *premiers crus* and on the Pommard and Meursault side of the village. More concentration here, with some of the most delicious tannins I have come across – quite powerful but beautifully fine, supple, fruit-coated (the French “*enrobé*” seeming so much more apt...) Eight barrels only, compared to 15 in a good year.

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030

£210.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BEAUNE 1ER CRU CLOS DES AIGROTS

This vineyard was 95% hailed for the past three years, which had the cumulative effect of reducing the yield to a paltry 15 hectolitres per hectare in 2015. Bright bitter cherries and raspberry on the nose, with a quite breath-taking perfume. Pure primary red fruit on the palate and caramelised red berries, through which a fine, fine structure is divisible.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030

£260.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BEAUNE 1ER CRU GRÈVES

Frédéric Lafarge, not a man given to hyperbole, volunteered that “Grèves is the greatest terroir in Beaune”. The vines here are 94 years old, the oldest in the domaine, and lie in the heart of this gravelly vineyard. A pale, luminous ruby colour. So fine on the nose – a vapour trail of perfume – you fear it might evaporate in front of you. The palate is more robust, with sweet red fruit and, towards the end, some rather grippy fine tannins.

Corney & Barrow Score 18+
Recommended drinking from 2022–2032

£285.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU LES MITANS

Sweet red perfume on the nose, leading into a strident palate which vibrates with energy – finely textured, multi-faceted, like a mosaic from which you have to step back to appreciate the overall harmony. In the words of Frédéric Lafarge, “This is the Volnay that we all imagine – finely perfumed, with power and tannic presence in the mouth”.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5++
Recommended drinking from 2022–2032

£425.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU LES PITURES - NEW

This is the last *premier cru* before Pommard, perhaps explaining its firmer build. Only one barrel has been produced in 2015, all of which will be bottled in magnum, as “the texture and power will go very well in magnum”. More corporeal, with dense red fruit and more tannic rigour. To be simplistic, this is very much a Volnay rather than a Pommard, but it's amazing how the influence of the latter is apparent in its muscular and forthright nature.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2024–2034+

£425.00/case of 3 magnums, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU LES CAILLERETS

This was a victim of hail last year, which reduced the crop by 50%... and the 2013 vintage was a similar story. This year, same again – the enduring legacy of the previous seasons' damage. More overtly fruity but – and this is perhaps the essence of Caillerets – with an overriding sense of minerality. This might be the best demonstration of Frédéric Lafarge's observation that 2015 is generously fruited but in a way that allows the *terroir* absolute expression. Beautiful.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5 to 19
Recommended drinking from 2021–2030

£475.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU CLOS DES CHÊNES

Always shown in tastings before Clos du Château des Ducs, but in many ways the quintessential wine of the domaine. Violets, textured rockiness and gentle smokiness on the nose. Darker and more peppery, this needs time. The palate is similarly powerful, fine tannins gripping you upfront, beneath which you sense radiant depths of fruit waiting to bloom. Corporeal, albeit in a serene Volnay/Lafarge way – the yin to Clos du Château des Ducs' yang. Always the most forceful and assertive of the *premiers crus*.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5+
Recommended drinking from 2022–2032+

£475.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU CLOS DU CHÂTEAU DES DUCS

The vineyard behind the domaine. Very pale ruby, with a fine trail of perfume rising from the glass. Ethereal – an overused word maybe but if the Ducster can't be ethereal, what can? The palate reverberates with ripe sweet red fruit, fine, fine... as are the tannins – filigree – with energy and momentum, their force finally apparent in a grip on the finish. Very complete, what a wine.

Corney & Barrow Score 19
Recommended drinking from 2020–2030

£475.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGE ALIGOTÉ RAISINS DORÉS

From a parcel of 75 year old vines of Aligoté doré, the superior Aligoté clone, a rarity also found at Domaine A & P de Villaine (see page 69). Ripe and finely textured, sedate and cohesive. It seems to be a good year for Aligoté.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2017–2020

£75.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT

This comes from a plot beneath Santenots du Milieu. There is some phenolic grippiness, meaning the domaine prefers to use no new oak. As well as richness of fruit, there is salinity here – I mentioned this to Frédéric who agreed, saying to his mind this is “the stamp of a fine year”. Lovely fresh acidity and balance – poised, with more than a passing resemblance to the stellar 2014.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£175.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT VENDANGES SELECTIONNÉES

This is a selection from a plot of 60 year old vines, from around Santenots du Milieu. Alongside the ‘normal’ Meursault, there is more intensity, force and drive here – similar in style but with the volume turned up.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2024

£375.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BEAUNE BLANC 1ER CRU CLOS DES AIGROTS

A munificent four barrels in 2015, compared to only one in 2014 (which was 95% hailed and so bottled entirely in magnums). Bright white stone fruit and green apple, with a citric lemony character. Luminous and with a charge of energy on the palate. Exciting wine.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£275.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

DOMAINE MARQUIS D'ANGERVILLE

This domaine, once part-owned by the Dukes of Burgundy, lies at the very heart of Volnay, both geographically and emotionally. Guillaume d'Angerville has been in charge here since the death of his father Jacques in 2003. The d'Angerville Pinot Noir clones are unique, producing particularly small grapes. The wines have, to my palate, a little more oak influence in youth than those of Domaine Lafarge, although no more than 20% new oak is customarily used. These are long-lived Volnays, at the very top of the quality ladder.

The wines will be released later in January 2017.

Guillaume d'Angerville



MEURSAULT

The largest village of the Côte de Beaune, Meursault lies in the centre of the appellation, with Volnay to the north and Puligny-Montrachet to the south. Of the three great Côte de Beaune white wine villages (Puligny- and Chassagne-Montrachet being the others), Meursault delivers the archetypal rich, buttery, voluminous style. A Meursault may have meat on the bone, but that bone should be finely sculpted. This is where tension meets supple, joyful fruit.

Meursault is primarily Chardonnay country but there are enclaves of Pinot Noir, notably Les Santenots (confusingly labelled Volnay-Santenots – see Thierry Matrot’s excellent example on page 60). As with Nuits-Saint-Georges, it is surprising that a village of this renown has no *grand cru*. Meursault has perhaps suffered historically by comparison with Puligny and Chassagne from not having ‘Montrachet’ appended to its name. Whatever the reason, it can be argued convincingly that the best Meursault *premiers crus* are of *grand cru* calibre.

DOMAINE PATRICK JAVILLIER

Patrick Javillier is an engaging, quietly-spoken man with a disarming smile. Having taken over from his father, his first harvest was in 1974. He has expanded the domaine’s holdings to today’s ten hectares. Marion, one of Patrick’s two daughters, is now responsible for vinifying the reds.

Patrick’s father started selling to the UK in the 1950s. Speaking no English and sending his wines in barrel to be bottled in the UK, he must have felt strangely disconnected from those who got to enjoy them. How things have changed!

Discussing acidity and longevity with Patrick, he gave the example of 1994 versus 1995, relating that his lower acidity 1994s ended up living much longer than the 1995s. An interesting lesson for 2014 versus the lower acid 2015 – we are no doubt too eager to assume low pHs and high acidity equal ageing potential. The truth, as always, is more complex.

Patrick is an advocate for drinking white Burgundy with some maturity, saying he looks for a “sense of cheese” (yes, this is a good thing).

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE PATRICK JAVILLIER

Finally, normal quantities in 2015, a year in which the health of the grapes was exceptional. Despite a hot summer and an early harvest, the white wines have an excellent freshness and what Patrick described nicely as an “aromatic richness”. The red wines are just beautiful, with complex aromas and supple tannins. 2016 will be “half or less than half” of a normal crop, so stock up on these 2015s while you can!

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 1ER CRU LES SERPENTIÈRES

Dark berries on the nose, leading into a palate of beautifully crunchy dark fruit, which is ripe and liquorice-infused. Super supple tannins, a silky body and bright fruit – this is a winner! Always a favourite when shown at our Tower of London tasting.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£140.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE BLANC CUVÉE DES FORGETS

This comes from vines just outside Meursault on the Volnay (north-eastern) side of the village, where there is more clay. Bright and crisp, with bracingly fresh acidity. This was harvested early, on 28th of August, as close as possible to 13% natural alcohol. 25% new oak complements deftly the natural structure.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2019

£80.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE BLANC CUVÉE OLIGOCÈNE

From vines on the Puligny (southern) side of the village, with limestone-rich soils, sited below Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes Dessous. Leaner and more green-fruited than Les Forgets, with more crunchiness. 30% new oak. Patrick conceded that this never shows as well as Les Forgets in early tastings, but was confident that it will overtake it. Lean and pared-back at this stage, but the finish contains a glimpse of the breadth and weight to come.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2020

£105.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT LES TILLETTS

Voluminous, with impressive palate weight. You can feel the density of the 2015 sunshine here, but there is a strict counterpoint of acidity. Patrick said he likes the balance here... and I could only agree. 30% new oak this year, as is the norm for Patrick's Tilletts, on the basis that more limestone gives a greater capacity to absorb new oak, whereas wines from clay soils need a lower proportion of new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023+

£195.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT LES CLOUSOTS

More fruit ripeness and – dare I say it – more of a new world character, although with the characteristic matching Javillier acidity and freshness. Patrick never uses new oak for his Clousots – one year old for half the *cuvée* and old oak for the rest. The back palate and finish are simply beautiful. The name comes from this wine's two component plots, Les Clous (100 year old vines, this year making up just over half the blend) and Les Crotots.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2017–2022

£225.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT CUVÉE TÊTE DE MURGER

This is another blend of two sites, vinified separately, Les Murgers de Monthélie and Les Casse Têtes. Fine, lean and precise, with a lurking power and force beneath. This is the most complete of the Meursaults at this early point. Some bright tropical notes come out from the mid-palate onwards, little pops of sherbet. An exciting wine, certainly the product of a warmer year, but made beautifully to retain acidity and finesse.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5
Recommended drinking from 2019–2024+

£325.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK



DOMAINE MATROT

“Millésime outstanding.”

Thierry Matrot | October 2016



Thierry Matrot

Thierry Matrot started working with his father in 1976, taking over from the 1983 vintage. After 33 years at the helm, he is now in the process of handing over himself. 2015 is his last vintage. His daughters Adèle and Elsa were busy making the 2016 vintage when we visited.

The domaine has been totally organic since 2000, making both reds and whites. In recent vintages it has been hit particularly hard by hail and frost. 2015 provided respite from both of these but suffered badly from *millerandage* (unevenly sized grapes) and *coulure* (undeveloped grapes), meaning yet again the red wine volumes are only half the average.

THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE MATROT

2015 saw only half a harvest for the reds, due to the extreme heat which brought both *millerandage* and *coulure*. However, the quality is fabulous, minerality and concentration being the hallmarks for Thierry.

In an email exchange regarding the growing conditions, Adèle Matrot summed up 2015 as “a very warm vintage”. From spring onwards, she said they were aware that 2015 was running ahead of schedule, with flowering happening in a matter of days at the beginning of June. On that basis, they expected to be harvesting at the end of August/ beginning of September.

Summer left its imprint of heat on the vines, especially marked in July. The first signs of *véraison* appeared in mid-July. However, due to the heat and the lack of water, development was ‘blocked’ for some weeks.

Happily, August saw several days of rain, following which *véraison* resumed rapidly. The grapes developed very quickly at this point, meaning harvest began on 31st August. Fine weather then returned, allowing picking to be carried out under sunny skies. The grapes were extremely healthy – Adèle spoke of harvesting “magnificent” berries of “ideal maturity”. The acidity levels were “perfectly satisfactory” and the juice was rich and complex.

Finally, a warning in light of next year. On the subject of 2016, Thierry, with characteristic stoicism and a twinkle in the eye, said, “I always look for the positives: the *premiers crus* were beautiful... but the *villages* wines were decimated.”

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR

Pretty perfume and pure red fruit on the nose. Ripe and quite rich, but sensual and with lovely fine tannins. Even for the first wine of the day at 8am, this was delicious and fresh. From a blend of three sites: 60% from Puligny (unusual for reds!), 30% from Volnay and 10% from the Hautes Côtes.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2018–2021+

£150.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MARANGES VIEILLES VIGNES

A little-known appellation, only created in 1989, this wine was introduced by Adèle and Elsa Matrot. Firm and with bright dark berries on the nose, the palate has a nice sweetness of fruit, excellent structure and a relatively full body, refreshed by lively acidity. Mr Muller called this “an early drinking beaut”.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£170.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MARANGES 1ER CRU LA FUSSIÈRE

Thierry bought the domaine’s Maranges vineyard in 2011, consisting of nearly two hectares, after two years of trial buying the grapes. Dark forest fruits and undergrowth, with a finely textured crushed rock minerality. Thierry explains the difference between this and the Village Maranges (above) as follows: “the *premier cru* has the same black fruit but is refreshed by bright red berries and greater in intensity”.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2019–2025

£225.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MONTHÉLIE

Over the last three years, a maximum of 15 hectolitres per hectare were produced here due to hail and frost (where 40 is the aim). Happily, 2015 sees a return to “almost” normal levels. Great momentum and energy here. Vibrant red fruit and bright acidity. This is everything young, characterful Pinot Noir should aspire to. Thierry: “*c’est pas normal pour un Monthélie!*” (this being a good thing, I think...).

Corney & Barrow Score 15.5 to 16
Recommended drinking from 2018–2023

£245.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT ROUGE

The last time we offered this was in 2011, as quantities have been almost non-existent for the past three vintages (we could have had 2 or 3 cases maximum!) A very welcome return to the line-up therefore, especially as this is deliciously supple, red fruited and so drinkable. The tannins are a little more ‘serious’, making it best to leave this a year longer than the Monthélie for example, but this will be perfect in 3-5 years’ time.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5
Recommended drinking from 2019–2024

£260.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

AUXEY-DURESSES

A sweeter-fruited red nose, leading into a juicy, medium bodied palate. Darker berries in the mouth, with a firm tannic structure. A more ponderous, meditative wine, with a nice mineral dimension. Give this time – it’s complete, balanced, just needing to be coaxed out of its shell.

Corney & Barrow Score 16
Recommended drinking from 2019–2022

£245.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

VOLNAY 1ER CRU LES SANTENOTS

Santenots is at the more structured end of things amongst the delicate, perfumed wines of Volnay. Indeed, the vineyard actually lies over the boundary in Meursault but takes the Volnay name to avoid confusion. Make no mistake, this oozes elegance but it has a tannic backbone too – a muscular ballet dancer maybe. Thierry has three parcels in Santenots, making this wine a mix of mid-slope (adjacent to Santenots-du-Milieu) and vines higher on the slope, perhaps accounting for the meeting of power and finesse here.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2021–2027

£450/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

BLAGNY 1ER CRU LA PIÈCE SOUS LE BOIS

This comes from a plot just above Sous le Dos d'Âne (as cultivated most notably by Domaine Leflaive) and directly beneath the wood of Blagny, hence the name. Mostly Chardonnay territory, but Pinot Noir also lives here. Team C&B had high hopes for this wine as Thierry poured it for us – it is something of a company favourite and it deserves to excel in a ripe year like 2015. We weren't disappointed: unassuming dark berries on the nose lead into a palate of beautifully immediate resonant blackberries, conjuring up autumn walks through the countryside. Blackcurrant, very ripe tannins and then a fresh finish. Thierry: "this is my last vintage, so I will be putting a lot of this wine into my personal cellar – perfect for my retirement!"

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2020–2028

£475/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY

Pastry and ripe stone fruit on the nose. Sonorous white peach and vivacious green melon on the palate, this is joyful and whilst unmistakably the product of a sunny vintage, it keeps it reined-in, threading a nice line between ebullience and restraint.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5
Recommended drinking from 2017–2019

£140.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

SAINT-ROMAIN

This has 10% new oak in 2015 and as always is more hedonistic in style. If you like a touch of the opulent, don't miss this wine. A toasty nose of cedar and stone fruit, leading into a mineral, saline palate. The palate is in fact more refined than the nose suggests but nonetheless, this is a friendly wine, not afraid of embracing you.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2020

£225.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT

No new oak. A textured, flinty nose, less flamboyant than one might expect with the preconceptions of a warm vintage – this is classical Meursault in anyone's book. Some struck match minerality details the palate of ripe but seated white stone fruit and 'half mineral, half citrus'. Interesting to compare this to 2014 – there is more mineral character and less citrus fruit in the 2015. I like it a lot.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2022

£375.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU BLAGNY

Ripe stone fruit, white peach, textured and long. This is more a product of a warm vintage, the one wine so far which most closely resembles vintages such as 2009. Not a bad thing at all, but this has more flamboyance than classicism.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

£525.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU LES CHARMES

Again, this has exuberance and ripe, joyful fruit. Unashamedly sunny and upbeat, it is as charming as its name suggests (I know, an awful cliché but it's true...) This, importantly, avoids the danger of warm vintage over-intensity, and most importantly of all, finishes with a charge of minerality and salinity.

Corney & Barrow Score 18
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025+

£560.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU LES CHALUMEAUX

Linear and precise, with a racy white peach character and a touch of citrus. Taut and fine-tuned, but with a more generous fruit profile than might be expected. A floral, pretty, long finish. Thierry acknowledged this flirts with *surmaturité*... but "is more 2015 than 2009 for me".

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

£560.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU LA QUINTESENCE

50% new oak, as always. Toasty, flamboyant, with the natural exuberance of the vintage really suiting this more overt style. Whilst this might not be for everyone, it is opulent and rather delicious.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

£560.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

DOMAINE JACQUES PRIEUR

Domaine Jacques Prieur belongs in the Meursault section by virtue of the location of the domaine buildings, but its holdings comprise a pantheon of great names stretching the length of the Côte. This is an expansive roll-call of some of the best in class, assembled piecemeal over the years and now on a trajectory back to the very highest level in Burgundy.

Three events are key to the recent history of the domaine. The first was the purchase of the majority share from the Prieur family by Jean-Pierre Labruyère in 1988. Second was the appointment in 1990 of Nadine Gublin as head winemaker. Third was the succession of Jean-Pierre Labruyère's son Edouard to manage the estates in 2008.

We are proud to be exclusive UK agents and will release the wines in January 2017.

DOMAINE HENRI DARNAT

Henri Darnat's aim is to make wines which are both drinkable in youth and age-worthy. He is a restless character, in the best of ways, always striving to innovate. Henri's relationship with oak is illustrative of this studied avoidance of fashion. Having eliminated new oak from his wines at the same time as he went organic over a decade ago, he is now experimenting once more. These are wines of early pleasure but which repay cellaring.

MEURSAULT CLOS DU DOMAINE

A smoky, spicy, assertive nose, leading into a palate which buzzes with ripe stone fruit, juicy acidity refreshing it. Whilst this oaked, overt style may not be for all, it certainly balances with the 2015 fruit density.

Corney & Barrow Score 16
Recommended drinking from 2018–2022

£275.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU CLOS RICHEMONT MONOPOLE

Flamboyantly fruited on the nose, with strident peach and pineapple. Juicy acidity in the mouth, really quite succulent, before a spicy, cedar character provides a counterpoint of rigour towards the back palate.

Corney & Barrow Score 16+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2023

£425.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

To paraphrase the much-paraphrased Dr Johnson, if you are tired of Puligny, you are tired of white wine. Perhaps the pinnacle of white Burgundy, the name Puligny-Montrachet is both universally recognised and a stamp of quality. Laser-like, linear, precise, steely, floral – these are the adjectives we hope to write when we taste the wines of Puligny. The village shares the Montrachet vineyard with its neighbour, Chassagne, entitling it to its cherished suffix. We work with three Puligny growers, who between them cover a broad spectrum of styles and sites.

DOMAINE LEFLAIVE

Among the most famous white wine domaines of Burgundy, Domaine Leflaive has recently welcomed a new incumbent, Brice De La Morandière. The domaine dates back to 1717, with Joseph Leflaive (1870-1953) bringing the wines to the world's attention. His two sons Vincent and Jo took over, followed by Anne-Claude Leflaive, who assumed sole control in 1994. Following her death last year, the baton passed to her nephew Brice.

Corney & Barrow shares jointly the UK representation of Domaine Leflaive, in addition to being the exclusive agent in Singapore and Thailand. Mâcon-Verzé (see page 73) and Meursault 1er Cru Sous le dos d'Âne are both exclusive to Corney & Barrow in the UK. As you will have seen from our mailing in December, the Leflaive 2015s were among the first wines released.

François Carillon

DOMAINE FRANÇOIS CARILLON

François Carillon is part of a lineage stretching back to 1520, with François being the sixteenth generation. Despite this rich heritage, the domaine in its current form was established in 2010, following the death of François' father Louis, when François and his brother Jacques decided to go their own ways, as is so often the case in Burgundy.

We are delighted to represent Domaine François Carillon exclusively in the UK. The 2015s will be released in February 2017.

OLIVIER LEFLAIVE

In the three decades since Olivier Leflaive was established, it has quietly forged an impressive reputation. The standard, consistency and depth of Olivier Leflaive's wine range are bound to the relationships with 100 or so small growers, from whom Olivier Leflaive sources grapes. These relationships lie in the hands of Franck Grux and Philippe Grillet, who run the vineyards and cellars.

For many years now Olivier Leflaive has made special wines exclusively for Corney & Barrow from particular vineyards to which we – customers and staff alike – have become loyal over time. We commit to purchase early in the year in order to secure allocations, as well as preferential prices. This arrangement is testament to the long relationship between Corney & Barrow and Olivier Leflaive.

The 2015s were released last July, as always the leaders of the pack by a long way. We still have stock of some wines however, so please speak to the sales team.



CÔTE CHALONNAISE

The Côte Chalonnaise is an undulating landscape to the south of the Côte de Beaune, stretching from Bouzeron to Montagny. The soils are similar to the Côte de Beaune: a mixture of limestone, gravel and clay. Although further south and therefore enjoying fractionally more sunshine, it is actually more exposed than the Côte d'Or. Five villages stand out: Givry, Montagny, Mercurey, Rully and Bouzeron.



DOMAINE A&P DE VILLAINÉ

“A sensual vintage, whereas 2014 was a little monastic.”

Pierre de Benoist | October 2016

This domaine is owned by Pamela and Aubert de Villaine, who is better known as the much-respected co-director of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti. Bouzeron being somewhat further off the beaten track than Vosne-Romanée, these wines remain relatively undiscovered. A fact which, speaking as a drinker, I am rather grateful for!

Bouzeron is the sole Aligoté-only appellation in Burgundy. This unfairly maligned grape variety finds its finest expression here. To be clear, we are dealing with the superior ‘golden’ Aligoté Doré clone rather than the aptly named Aligoté Vert, the latter being the source of much of the reputational damage afflicting poor Aligoté.

Domaine A&P de Villaine also produces wines from neighbouring Rully and Mercurey. Managed organically since 1986 and certified in 1997, it is managed by the inquisitive and engagingly philosophical Pierre de Benoist, Aubert’s nephew. Pierre is so good at delivering spontaneous soundbites, I can’t resist the temptation to include a couple of quotations here.

“I consider wine to be like a food. Wine used to be consumed like water when water was not drinkable. In French one said “I eat wine”. It is also important to remember that wine is 80% water.”

On the 2015 vintage...

MERCUREY LES MONTOTS

Following the first vintage of this wine in 1991, Pierre replanted this in 1999 with top quality clones from Nuits-Saint-Georges. Bright, sweet ripe red fruit on the nose, leading into a crunchy palate of red berries, virile, strident and firmly structured. This is probably the best showing of Montots I have seen. I will be buying some.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2019–2025

£120.00/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOUZERON BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ

Green apple, the nose announcing the phenolic grippiness which the palate then delivers. Aligoté grapes like a warm climate, which is wonderfully borne out by this – voluptuous, ripe and with a bitter grip on the back palate. There are massive differences of opinion as to when to drink this – 5-10 years would be possible, although some prefer to drink it young. The 2014 is drinking beautifully already.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2016–2020+

£175.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

RULLY LES SAINT-JACQUES

Blended just before harvest, having been vinified in one foudre (large oak vessel) with the remainder in barrels, making a total equivalent volume of 24 barrels. Floral, with expressive pear and apple on the nose. Ripe orchard fruits on the palate, and although you can feel the presence of 17% new oak, it is wholly integrated with the nicely weighted fruit.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2018–2022

£195.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



MÂCONNAIS

Mâcon lies 45 minutes by *autoroute* to the south of Chalon-sur-Saône. It is closer to Lyon than Beaune. For a style of wine sometimes confused with Chablis, it is worth noting that there are 219 kilometres between the two towns, making for real differences in climate. In simple terms, there is more fruit ripeness here and less piercing acidity.

The quality hierarchy in the Mâconnais starts with generic Mâcon, which may be red or white. Mâcon-Villages is a step up, applying to white wines only. The top status, again for white wines only, is conferred on the 26 communes who may use their village name after Mâcon.



DOMAINES LEFLAIVE

“The least expensive fine white wine in the world” – flippant perhaps but potentially true. What used to be a ‘stock line’ now sells out *en primeur*, meaning supply is anything but continuous. Mâcon-Verzé magnums are rightly a particular temptation.

Domaines Leflaive (note the ‘s’) is Domaine Leflaive’s operation in the Mâconnais. Anne-Claude Leflaive acquired a holding here, producing the first vintage in 2004. The original holdings totalled 9.3 hectares, consisting of five plots: Les Chênes, En Perret, Le Monté, Escolles and Les Muses. Last year saw an exciting expansion, of which more to follow.

Corney & Barrow is the exclusive agent for Mâcon-Verzé in the UK. The 2015 was released in December, in the main Domaine Leflaive offer.

MÂCON-VERZÉ

For over six months last year we had no Mâcon-Verzé at all. I am therefore sorry (and happy) to say that you must buy this now if you want to ensure any sort of regularity of supply. Grown biodynamically from five tiny plots.

Green gold in colour and with a citrusy, zesty note of pure white fruit with a touch of cream and butter this is a delectable Mâcon-Verzé in 2015. The palate dances well with a super balance of ripe, full fruit and freshness with a lovely burst of acidity on the finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18
Recommended drinking from 2017–2020

£205.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK
£230.00/case of 6 magnums, in bond UK

DOMAINE CORNIN

Domaine Cornin is a small family-owned producer deep in the heart of the Mâconnais. Run by Dominique Cornin and his son Romain, it lies in the Pouilly-Fuissé appellation, of which Chaintré is apparently the warmest village. Whether or not this gives a certain weight and richness to the wines is a matter for debate. All I can say is that when we visited recently, the *chai* was shrouded in freezing early morning mist.

This domaine is certainly one of the stars of the village. Its 10 hectares of vines are cultivated biodynamically (although without certification), with all vineyard work carried out by hand. In the cellar, only natural yeasts are used, with wines given a light fining and filtration but otherwise left to run their course unimpeded. All wines are fermented in oak barrels, but on average only 5% new oak is used.

Domaine Cornin also makes our super-successful Corney & Barrow White Burgundy, which is not in this offer (as we don't release it *en primeur*) but which we urge you to discover!

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Domaine Cornin

MÂCON-CHAINTRÉ LES SERREUXDIÈRES

This is a one hectare plot, with some clay in the soil adding weight. The oldest vines here date from 1990. A bright, vibrant straw-yellow colour, with a corresponding intensity on the nose of orchard fruits, white peach and a touch of pastry. Lovely purity. On the palate, there is viscosity and weighty stone fruit, balanced nicely by crisp acidity.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2019

£125.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ

Pouilly-Fuissé can come from five different villages. This is all from Chaintré, giving it a stamp of the village. It is a blend of several plots – so many in fact that Romain couldn't quite remember the final tally in the 2015! A fine, mineral nose, leading into a plumper, juicy palate, with evident fruit ripeness but retaining good definition and a dash of salinity on the finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2019+

£170.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ LES PLESSYS

This is made from two parcels totalling 0.6 hectares at present, although another plot will be added next year. East/south-east facing, with a substantial proportion of clay in the soil, it is both a little more powerful and more Presbyterian (as Adam would say). Lean and firm on the attack, it then reveals a lovely density and texture from the mid-palate onwards. Vibrant, bright green citrus fruit persists on the finish, as does a white flower aspect and some fine perfume. Dominique related that in the USA, this tends to be the favourite in New York – make of that what you will.

Corney & Barrow Score 17
Recommended drinking from 2017–2021+

£225.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ CHEVRIÈRES

Just under a hectare of vines here, planted on limestone. This is all fermented and aged in demi-muids (large 600 litre oak vessels), giving this less outright oak influence. Cool citrus on the nose, with texture and a hint of warming fruit ripeness. The palate is juicy and supple on the attack, with a salinity and a fine rocky minerality kicking in from the mid-palate. A sustained, poised finish, with the saline aspect sucking in and channelling the liquid.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2017–2021+

£235.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

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BEAUJOLAIS

We now enter the realm of Gamay rather than Pinot Noir. The days of Beaujolais Nouveau having mercifully receded like a distant bad dream, we are allowed to, indeed we must, take Beaujolais seriously again.

Beaujolais demonstrates an increased mobility in the world of French wine production. Our two producers featured here include a Moulin-à-Vent family, the Labruyères, who now also own Domaine Jacques Prieur in Meursault (*inter alia*) and a Volnay family, the Lafarges, whose holdings now stretch to Fleurie.

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FLEURIE

The evocatively named village of Fleurie produces a wine every bit as delicate as its name. One of the ten Beaujolais *crus*, it is the palest, the prettiest and the most finely perfumed. Sandy soils produce the lightest bodied wines, whilst towards Moulin-à-Vent, clay creeps into the mix, with wines of consequently greater structure.

DOMAINE LAFARGE VIAL

Frédéric Lafarge and his wife Chantal established Domaine Lafarge Vial in the spring of 2014. They managed to secure several parcels of vines within Fleurie and one small adjoining parcel of Chiroubles, with buildings within the lieu dit Bel-Air, in the commune of Fleurie.

In the course of 2014 Frédéric and Chantal Lafarge were able to make an immediate impact. All of the vineyards are trained in the traditional gobelet formation and planted on degraded granite. The Lafarges have practiced biodynamics from the outset, mirroring their approach in Volnay, and are working towards biodynamic certification in Fleurie.

Along with the Côte Chalonnaise and the Jura, Beaujolais has benefitted from increasing instances of top Burgundian producers buying land and focusing on the local rather than the regional. In the same way that the Labruyères stress that they make Moulin-à-Vent rather than Beaujolais, for the Lafarges, Fleurie and Chiroubles are very much centre-stage.

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THE 2015 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE LAFARGE VIAL

Whilst 2014 was all destemmed, 2015 sees 15-25% whole bunches, the higher ripeness of the season permitting the inclusion of stems. 2015 saw small, very concentrated grapes, brought about by the dry summer conditions. Harvest started on 27th August, finishing on 3rd September.

This is all about minimum intervention and letting the *terroir* speak for itself. There is no new oak here, and certainly no carbonic maceration. The wines were vinified in a combination of old oak barrels and large old oak vessels. *Élevage* lasted 14 months. When I asked Frédéric what sort of ageing life he envisaged for the wines, he said he expected 5-8 years' ageing potential, although you can start drinking them within six months of release.

CHIROUBLES

Chiroubles is Fleurie's next door neighbour, meaning despite being a different cru, this plot lies alongside Bel-Air (see below), which itself is opposite the domaine buildings. The domaine has a tiny parcel of 0.35 hectares of Chiroubles with an average age of 45 years. The earliest harvested of the plots, it achieves a very respectable 13-13.5% potential alcohol. Very bright and fresh, red cherry and a little morello, bursting with life and energy. The tannins are certainly there, and have a fine chalky aspect, but the fruit is a match for them.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+
Recommended drinking from 2017–2022

£225.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

FLEURIE

This is a blend of two sites, Bel-Air and Cercillon. It sits on the slope adjoining both Chiroubles and Morgon, adjacent to the domaine. Dark fruits, with a complex salinity. This is elegant and has ageing potential, the tannins demanding a little time.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5
Recommended drinking from 2017–2023

£250.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

FLEURIE JOIE DU PALAIS

This is the first vintage of this wine, made from a steep 1.2 hectare parcel. Apparently the name alludes to the historical charm and elegance of the site. There is fuller body here, relatively speaking, allowing 25% whole bunches to have been used. A classy nose, which could easily be Pinot Noir: lifted red berries and rose petals. Quite juicy on the attack, before fleshing out on the mid palate, with a sappiness from the whole bunches. Lots of structure here but supple and balanced.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+
Recommended drinking from 2017–2023

£260.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

FLEURIE CLOS VERNAY

This is a parcel of 1.33 hectares situated higher up, on the first slope in Fleurie, approaching from Moulin-à-Vent - Clos Vernay. It is quite steep, the vineyard surrounded by meadow and woodland. The vines range between 35 and 45 years. This is later ripening than Bel-Air, given its altitude, although both are south-east facing. Quartz soils. Harvested on 2nd and 3rd September and vinified in a 30 hectolitre *foudre*, 15% whole bunches. Dark, quite fleshy berries and very mineral, with beautifully integrated tannins. Focused and pure.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5
Recommended drinking from 2017–2023

£270.00/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MOULIN-À-VENT

The only commune in Beaujolais which belongs administratively to Burgundy rather than the Rhône. A bureaucrat's splitting of hairs perhaps, but growers here would claim a difference in mindset and indeed the wines can appear uncannily Pinot Noir-like. Heavier, clay-based soils contribute to wines of greater structure and ageing potential.

DOMAINE LABRUYÈRE

Domaine Labruyère is the oldest estate in Moulin-à-Vent, dating back to 1850. The original 10 hectares have been added to over the years. The most significant acquisition was that of Le Clos du Moulin-à-Vent, the appellation's only *monopole*, situated beside the iconic windmill.

Since 2008, the property has been run by Edouard Labruyère, the seventh generation. Edouard grew up here and now works alongside winemaker Nadine Gublin and cellar master Michel Rovere.

Four wines are produced: Coeur de Terroir, Champ de Cour (arguably one of the greatest *terroirs* of Beaujolais and the only one to be 100% whole-bunch vinified), Le Carquelin and Le Clos du Moulin-à-Vent.

Corney & Barrow has been the exclusive UK agent for Domaine Labruyère since the 2013 vintage. The 2015s will be released at the end of January 2017.

TO ORDER

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These wines are released *en primeur*.

Delivery dates to be confirmed.

All prices are quoted in bond UK.

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