



BURGUNDY 2016 VINTAGE, EN PRIMEUR

WELCOME TO 2018 AND WELCOME TO 2016 BURGUNDY!

As ever, January marks the general launch of the Burgundy season, lasting through various releases from November through to April.

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Well, as far as 2016 is concerned, everyone was well-warned. Looking at Guy Seddon's notes from last year, he repeated time and time again how infinitesimally small were the quantities produced in 2016 - reductions caused by the savage frost described in Guy's vintage report on the next page. Some producers lost 70 to 80%, their cellars echo with emptiness... there is so little wine available. Happily 2017 promises both quality and quantity at last, although Chablis has been hit once again.

Whilst we gave ample warning about quantities in 2016, we had no idea how lovely the wines would be. The ravages of nature served as a drastically severe pruning but that, in turn, resulted in extraordinary intensity and heightened quality.

As our collection of Burgundy producers grows, it is all too easy to lose track of releases so as of last year, we have therefore included a list of all growers whose wines we offer en primeur. As always we have set this out in geographical order, ALISON BUCHANAN from north to south, for simplicity.

As you can see from the individual producer sections, some domaines' wines are released as standalone offers. Growers whose wines are released as separate offers include Domaine Leflaive, Domaine François Carillon, Domaine Marquis d'Angerville, Domaine Pierre Labet and Château de la Tour.

We taste in Burgundy several times a year with the presence of several members of the Buying and Sales Teams, including Adam Brett-Smith, Guy Seddon, Will Hargrove, Joe Muller, Rebecca Palmer and myself. Keeping the show on the road, as always, were Christelle Chédeville, Kate Leney and Tanya Schaller, as well as the team which collect the samples for the tastings in January ensuring they are pristinely fresh.

Don We Bello

January, 2018



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.

2016 VINTAGE OVERVIEW

Following a visit in September 2016, I wrote, "2016 is still on the vine, but the crop has been severely reduced by frost and then mildew. Losses range from around a third to the point where you wonder if it is worth sending in the pickers at all."

The good news is that no hail materialised in the Côte d'Or and the weather throughout September continued fine and sunny. The first proper rains started on Saturday 1st October, by which time all but the final vestiges of the harvest were in. A very good vintage has been salvaged from the jaws of disaster. But the quantities...

THE GREAT FROST OF 2016

What exactly happened on the devastating night of 26th-27th April 2016? Temperatures dropped to zero, causing the nascent buds to freeze on the vine. The sun then rose in a clear blue sky. Before the frozen buds had a chance to thaw, the solar rays used them as tiny magnifying glasses, frazzling their delicate contents. As flies to wanton boys...

Due to the angle of the rising sun, in some places the higher plots (typically the *premiers* and *grands crus*) were worse affected than the *villages* sites lower on the slope. This was far from clear-cut however. In the Côte de Nuits, Chambolle-Musigny was badly hit, as was Clos de Vougeot and Échézeaux, but Morey Saint-Denis was largely spared. The Côte de Beaune's northern and southern extremities – Corton and Puligny-Montrachet – escaped, whereas Beaune, Pommard, Volnay and Meursault suffered terribly.

The apparent randomness of the April frost has raised questions as to the exact cause of the damage. Trying to make sense of the frost pattern, Frédéric Mugnier appeared genuinely perplexed with the 'sun/magnifying glass' explanation, musing that it "does not make scientific sense".

Much hope was placed on a second growth of buds. Indeed, some did appear – for example, Domaine Lafarge was able to make 900 bottles of Meursault, exclusively from this second growth. However, the general picture was as related by Clive Coates MW: "As far as a second generation is concerned, this is elusive. One grower was heard joking to his team: by all means come back and help me pick, but not until the 18th of November."

Finally, mention must be made of Chablis, where 2016 could be described as a '3G' vintage – nothing to do with mobile phone masts, but rather *gel* + *grêle* + *grillure* (frost + hail + sun-grilling). Following the April frost, Chablis suffered two episodes of hail. The first, on 13th May (Friday 13th, as it happens), saw a massive hailstorm savage the northern part of the appellation, including some premier cru vineyards. The second, even more dramatically destructive, was an afternoon hailstorm on 27th May, which completed the trail of havoc at the southern end of Chablis. The final insult was an intensely hot end to the growing season, with five days in late August over 40°C, meaning the precious remaining berries risked a scorching. Vincent Dampt's experience is revealing: whilst at the lower levels, Vincent's holdings were harshly struck, the wines in this offer escaped relatively lightly. 1er Cru Vaillons as a whole was less affected by the frost, although one of Vincent's parcels was smashed by the hail, meaning his production is 35% down. 1ers Crus Les Lys and Côte de Lechet were spared the hail but the frost effects (combined with their old vines) made for losses here too: Les Lys ended up losing 40% of a normal crop. Vincent's Grand Cru Bougros was exceptionally lucky, escaping both frost and hail, as well as the worst excesses of heat later in the season.



LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

Just to put things in context, here is a brief statuscheck on the past five years...

2017: Recently picked when we visited – and still fermenting in some cases – this was the reason for so many smiles on the faces of growers. A return to quantity, for the first time since 2009. And the quality looks very exciting too... *Cest correct, enfin.* Interestingly, frost returned on exactly the same night as in 2016, but in a wonderful collective effort, growers throughout the region coordinated to light early-morning bonfires, whose smoke prevented the widespread sun-burning damage caused in 2016.

2015: A cracker of a vintage for reds and an ebullient, pleasure-giving one for whites (whose lower acidities look likely to make them earlier-drinking in style). Healthy flowering made for reasonable volumes overall, but there was local variation due to the knock-on effects of the 2014 hail and some hydric stress and sunburn later in the season. Warm weather made for small berries, meaning reds with naturally high tannins. High ripeness resulted in supple, concentrated fruit.

2014: A year which will go down as one of the greats for whites throughout the region. A very good one for reds too, which were underestimated, as tends to be the way in more 'classical' years. Parts of the Côte de Beaune were for the third year running badly affected by hail, some losing over half their crop. This was the year of the Asian fruit fly *Drosophila suzukii*, which made careful sorting crucial.

2013: A cooler season, some of whose wines are increasingly emerging as underrated gems. Notoriously difficult in Bordeaux, which for some reason always skews our esteem for the Burgundy vintage (perhaps that is a UK quirk). The *premiers crus* 2013 whites have begun to hit their stride in the past six months or so; their initially piercing acidity has resolved into a beautiful upbeat freshness.

THE 2016 SEASON, MONTH-BY-MONTH

Winter to April: Winter 2015-16 was the mildest since 2010. April was cold however, the marked change culminating in the catastrophic frost of 26th-27th (see above).

May: Cool and wet – drizzle interspersed with storms, with temperatures barely rising above 20°C. Hail in Chablis and Beaujolais.

June: Rain continued, until around the third week, when the first real heat of the year was felt. Prolonged flowering, which mercifully was concluded safely.

July: Pleasant, largely dry (bar the odd minor thunderstorm), warm, occasionally even hot. Worries at this point included mildew, which flourished malignantly throughout the region. Uneven ripening.

August: Early August saw a pattern of a rainy day followed by several days of warm sunshine. Many

growers spoke of the high diurnal temperature differences: the cool nights staved off threats of rot and preserved fresh acidity. Heat continued to build, in a moderate way, but under sunny skies. As Clive Coates MW put it, "It is as if nature has been conspiring to make up for the miserable weather in April and May."

September: Wonderfully warm, a month to fall in love with Burgundy, with just enough moisture early in the month to oil the wheels. Growers returned from their summer breaks tanned and relaxed, to find the same weather in the Côte d'Or that they had left on the Côte d'Azur. Driving up into the hills at lunchtime between visits, all was bucolic tranquility, as if the lamentable spring had never happened. As the grapes eased into maturity, picking in the Côte d'Or started in the third week of the month and was concluded under clear, dry skies.

AND SO?

How do you follow the white wine majesty of 2014 and the red wine panache of 2015? Alongside the exuberance of 2015, the 2016 vintage is cut from more traditional cloth. Certainly more Savile Row than Vivienne Westwood. The whites do bear a resemblance to 2014 and 2010 – we are in the happy middle kingdom of stone and orchard-fruit, rather than 2015's ebullience or 2013's citric pucker. If pushed, I think the reds will turn out to be the great success story of the vintage – there is a brightness and luminosity, combined every now and then with a weightless thrill – that fairground lurch in your stomach, the electric connection to a higher plane. Will the prices of the 2016s be regarded as high? Possibly – some growers clearly need to charge more in the fifth year of low production out of six, whilst others have proved refreshingly keen to exert restraint. In the longer term, release prices from the Côte d'Or are only going to go one way. Lesser-known appellations are set to blossom in this context. We are very pleased to have added a young grower from Santenay this year, Justin Girardin (nephew of Vincent Girardin), whose 2016s are simply gorgeous.

Change is certainly in the air in Burgundy. We have seen some big names sold over the past year and there is a palpable fear of more to come. We teeter on the threshold of Corporation Burgundy – a sobering prospect. Recent short vintages, combined with rocketing land values, have made even starker the disconnect between the value of a domaine and the income from its wine. Add to that a pernicious inheritance tax regime and many high profile family-owned estates approaching a generational hand-over. It is certainly a recipe for reflection!

In the meantime, let us revel in another *en primeur* Burgundy season. We love these wines and we know you will too.

Guy Seddon January 2018

WINES OFFERED IN THIS RELEASE

CHABLIS	See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB price per case
Domaine Vincent Dampt			
Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons	13	12	£215
Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys	13	12	£215
Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet	14	12	£215
Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet '350'	14	12	£295
Chablis Grand Cru Bougros Maison Dampt	14	12	£445
CÔTE DE NUITS	See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB price per case
Domaine Gilles Jourdan			
Côte de Nuits-Villages Blanc	20	12	£210
Bourgogne Pinot Noir Vieilles Vignes	20	12	£145
Côte de Nuits-Villages	20	12	£210
Côte de Nuits-Villages La Robignotte Monopole	20	12	£245
CÔTE DE BEAUNE	See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB price per case
Domaine Cyrot-Buthiau			
Volnay	25	12	£275
Pommard	25	12	£275
Pommard 1er Cru Les Arvelets	25	12	£415
Domaine Patrick Javillier Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Serpentières	30	6	£145
Bourgogne Cuvée des Forgets	30	6	£89
Bourgogne Cuvée Oligocène	30	6	£115
Meursault Les Tillets	30	6	£215
Meursault Les Clousots	30	6	£240
Meursault Cuvée Tête de Murger	30	6	£345
Meursaun Guvee rete de Murger	50	0	1343
Domaine Matrot			
Bourgogne Pinot Noir	33	12	£165
Maranges Vieilles Vignes	33	12	£185
Maranges 1er Cru La Fussière	33	12	£245
Monthélie	33	12	£265

CÔTE DE BEAUNE continued...

Meursault Rouge
Auxey-Duresses
Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots
Blagny 1er Cru La Pièce sous le Bois
Bourgogne Chardonnay
Saint-Romain
Meursault
Meursault 1er Cru Blagny
Meursault 1er Cru Les Charmes
Meursault 1er Cru Les Perrières
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Chalumeaux
Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru La Quintessence

Domaine Henri Darnat

Puligny-Montrachet Villages Meursault 1er Cru Clos Richemont Monopole

Domaine Justin Girardin

Santenay 1er Cru Beauregard Santenay 1er Cru Maladière Santenay 1er Cru Clos Rousseau Pommard

MÂCONNAIS

Domaines Leflaive

Mâcon-Verzé Mâcon-Verzé Magnum

Domaine Cornin

Mâcon-Chaintré Les Serreuxdières Pouilly-Fuissé Clos Reyssié Pouilly-Fuissé Les Plessys Pouilly-Fuissé Chevrières

See Page	Case size	£/Offer IB
33	12	£275
33	12	£260
34	12	£475
34	12	£515
34	12	£150
34	12	£245
35	12	£395
35	12	£545
35	12	£595
35	12	£695
35	12	£595
35	12	£595

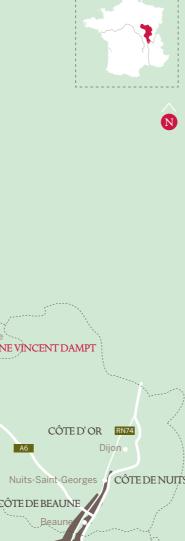
37	12	£425
37	12	£495

41	6	£135
41	6	£125
41	6	£125
41	6	£185

43	12	£240
43 See Page	6 Case size	£270 £/Offer IB
oce i age	Gube bille	price per case
45	12	£135
45	12	£250
45	12	£250
45	12	£265

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.



YONNE DOMAINE VINCENT DAMPT CHABLIS & AUXERRE CÔTE DE NUITS CÔTE DE BEAUNE CÔTE CHA **ONNAISE** Saône-et-Loir MÂCONNAIS Mâco BÉAUJOLAIS Villefranche-sur-Sa 50 km GRANDS CRUS, PREMIERS CRUS, VILLAGES LYON

DOMAINE VINCENT DAMPT

Vincent is now into his second decade making wine, these 2016s being his twelfth 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.

We are used to saying that Vincent's premiers crus are unoaked. As of 2016 however, there is a new face in the line-up, in the form of the 1er Cru Côte de Léchet '350'. This takes its name from the 350 litre barrels in which it is aged, half of which come from the François Frères cooperage and half from Seguin Moreau. An exciting new string to Vincent's bow - see the tasting notes below for the detail. 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

Vaillons is known for its generous fruit, power and poise, due to its favourable south-eastern aspect as well as its Kimmeridgian soils. Vincent's parcel is particularly rich in clay, with vines averaging 35 years old, giving expressive wines. 2016 has yielded a concentrated Vaillons, with generous orchard fruit, perfumed and tangy, underpinned by the customary chablisien steel.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018-2024

£215/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS 1ER CRU LES LYS

Les Lys is a small sub-section of the Vaillons cru, where Vincent Dampt owns a small parcel of vines, planted nearly 60 years ago by his grandfather. Yields are unsurprisingly minuscule, even more so this year. Refined and elegant, less forward than Vaillons, the 2016 offers concentrated mineral and creamy layers belying a precise filigree structure.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5 Recommended drinking from 2018-2024

£215/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS 1ER CRU CÔTE DE LÉCHET

This is a special site, with its 38% gradient and 40year old vines that have a tendency to *millerandage* resulting in tiny yields. As elsewhere in Chablis in this year of extremes, the triple effects of frost, hail and the August heat-wave slashed crop levels, concentrating the fruit that survived. As a result all elements of this wine appear heightened: the mayblossom notes, delicate but simultaneously savoury, the creamy length on the palate longer, richer.. yet pulled tight as ever by the unmistakeable steely tang and tension of the *cru*.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018-2025

£215/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS 1ER CRU CÔTE DE LÉCHET '350'

We are thrilled to bring you 350, Vincent's new wine, borne of a year of extreme challenge. The fruit of the best vines of the *cru* - this vineyard was planted in 1964 by Vincent's grandfather - this is a blend of two 350 litre barrels of different origins. According to Vincent, this low-yielding year seems to have amplified site-specific characters, and this wine feels like Léchet through a magnifying glass, its hallmarks brought into precise focus: the characteristic tang of dark minerals and mayblossom, rich fruit yet taut and absolutely precise; the creamy layers on the palate supported and lengthened by oak, that will integrate over time. Beautifully styled, a new classic.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018-2025

£295/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CHABLIS GRAND CRU BOUGROS, MAISON DAMPT

Significantly reduced yields this year have reinforced not only the fruit but the sense of structure to Bougros in this challenging vintage. There is an expansive quality to this wine with its supple apple fruit, lifted by vanilla-cardamom spice and acacia honey, just exotic enough. Textural *crème fraîche* layers on the palate are kept in check by the wine's mineral undertow, deceptively firm, bringing the wine back to centre. A contemplative wine, that will drink beautifully now and in future.

Corney & Barrow Score 18.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018-2026

£445/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



DOMAINE VINCENT DAMPT

Côte de nuits

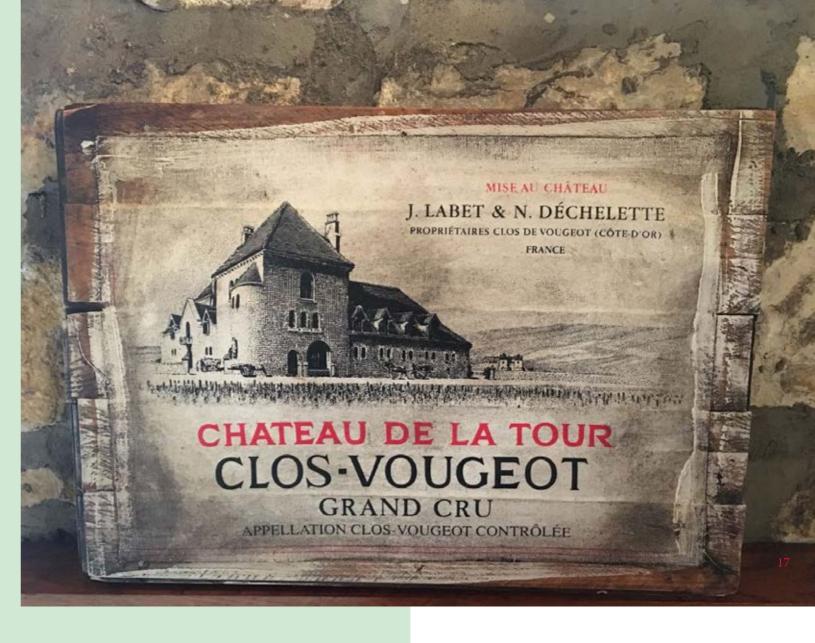
The Côte de Nuits forms the northern half of the Côte d'Or, running from the outskirts of Dijon, through seven famous communes, to the villages of Prémeaux and Corgoloin, south of Nuits-Saint-Georges.

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 some of the greatest Pinot Noirs in the world.

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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 have 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 in the UK and Singapore. The wines will be released later this year.

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.



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 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.



"Vins très élégants, d'une grande" richesse aromatique, parfums intenses de fruits rouges et noirs accompagnés de notes épicées. La bouche est fraîche tout en étant ronde et charnue.

The wines are very elegant, of great aromatic richness, intense aromas of red and black fruits with spicy notes. On the palate, fresh as well as round and meaty."

Gilles Jourdan | October 2017

THE 2016 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE GILLES JOURDAN

Following a mild winter, no-one would have anticipated the savage frost at the end of April which immediately reduced potential production severely.

The deed was done. June saw a return to benign weather and sunshine. What remained on the vine re-established its growth cycle, flowering, and ripening without impediment throughout a lovely autumn, through to harvest which started on the 5th October. It was simply that fateful night of 26th - 27th April which savaged quantities.

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. 11 months in 10% new oak gives a touch of richness here, slightly toasted notes and background opulence. Full and ripe on the palate we find melon, stone fruit, lemongrass, quince and apricot rising to a crescendo with a lemon pastry finish. Attractive texture and fruit.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17 Recommended drinking from 2019–2022

£210/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

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BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR VIEILLES VIGNES

This is made from just one parcel, 1.8 hectares in size, of around 70 year old vines.

Jet purple in colour, this is super-concentrated, with wonderfully intense black fruit. The aromatics are fabulous – a dramatic array of violet, rose, lavender and lilac. Whilst super-mature, and very lovely this is a tiny harvest – just 2500 bottles – very impressive.

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

145/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

CÔTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES

This is a blend of three parcels, creating complexity. The 2016 presents a jet plum colour, to a bramble rim. The nose offers black cherry and wild blackberry with some liquorice notes. There is attractive fruit intensity and structure, chunky tannins enrobed with rounded fruit. Earthy, dark and mineral with coffee-ed notes, dark fruit, layered and long, this has a real sense of place – great value, in fact.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5+ to 17 Recommended drinking from 2019–2023+

£210/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. It rather miraculously escaped the frost in 2016. 10% whole bunches were pressed. Profound in colour, this has the nose of chocolate Kirsch batons.

20-22% new oak provides texture underlying rounded, ripe, supple fruit. Dark chocolate and mocha, earthy minerals, coffee and *pain aux raisins* all play a role and there's a crunchiness to the fruit profile. Gilles allows one week of chilled prefermentation maceration at 12 degrees which adds to the overall purity and freshness. La Robignotte is a very special parcel and, treated with kid gloves, produces an exceptional wine at this level. The finish is long, with a haunting violet and rose perfume – lovely wine.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2019–2026+

£245/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



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.



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 relative bargains here. In the present offering, the Beaune wines of Domaine Rossignol-Trapet and Domaine Lafarge should not be missed (see pages 21 and 48 respectively), whilst Domaine Jacques Prieur and Domaine Pierre Labet have extensive Beaune holdings.



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 2018.





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 meant 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

This wine comes from five plots, two of which were purchased in 1995, sited in the middle of the appelation: Les Lurets and Les Famines. In 2010, two further plots were added, another in Les Lurets – this is a parcel divided into *village* and *premier cru* – and one in Les Paux Bois. Excellent fruit ripeness here, with juicy red berries and firm, fruit-coated tannins. A corporeal style of Volnay but with lovely perfume. Approachable young but don't be afraid to cellar this.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 Recommended drinking from 2021–2026

£275/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POMMARD

A blend of 15 parcels on the Volnay side of Pommard. The Domaine owns more than three hectares of Pommard. This is 100% destemmed and given five days of cold maceration. The tannins are extracted by *remontage* (pumping over). Lovely bright red berry perfume on the nose, leading into a palate of steely acidity and forceful red cherry, with a little crunchiness on the finish and some cedary volume from 25% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 Recommended drinking from 2021–2026

275/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POMMARD 1ER CRU LES ARVELETS

Les Arvelets is a 0.5 hectare south-facing sloping site of red clay, giving high ripeness levels, located adjacent to the Domaine's *cuverie*. Delectable fleshy red berries, offset by the stern forceful tannins which come in behind, channelling the fruit. The acidity is lifted and carries the flavours nicely. A marked step up from the *village* Pommard.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ Recommended drinking from 2022–2028

£415/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



VOLNAY

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

Despite being surrounded by Chardonnay, this outpost of Pinot has many parallels with Chambolle-Musigny. Aromatics to the fore, these wines can 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.

A little roadside restaurant with panoramic views over the vines has become an annual lunch venue during our tastings. I can think of worse ways to spend a lunchtime than with a bottle of Volnay, looking out over the deep gold autumnal slopes (although alas we never seem to find time for such things...)



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 2018.



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. Although we have come to expect volume and 'butteriness' from Meursault, there is in fact a lot of limestone and corresponding nervy tension here. The best Meursaults need little makeup.

Meursault is primarily Chardonnay country but there are islands of Pinot Noir, notably Les Santenots (confusingly labelled Volnay-Santenots – see Thierry Matrot's excellent example on page 62). As with Nuits-Saint-Georges, it is surprising that a village of this renown has no grands crus. 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 red wines and her brother-in-law Pierre-Emmanuel makes whites alongside Patrick who is officially *retired*. Clearly from Marion's face "retired" is questionable.

This is an estate where exceptional wines are made from some not so exceptional parcels of land. There is a wonderful complexity, balance and a capacity for moderate age.

THE 2016 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE PATRICK JAVILLIER

"It is a beautiful vintage, balanced, pure, with character, body and a sense of place" Marion Javillier, November 2017

As elsewhere 2016's fate rested in the attack of frost at the end of April. That said, the damage varied across the Domaine with production down in some parcels and severely reduced in others. The wines which were produced are however very good. It is a beautiful vintage, balanced, pure, with character, body and a sense of place.

SAVIGNY-LÈS-BEAUNE 1ER CRU LES SERPENTIÈRES

Deep cherry in colour, the nose offers agile summer berry fruit, perfumed with violet, rose and pepper spice. Lithe, pretty and ripe with good density and fine tannins in support, this is always a favourite when shown at our annual Burgundy tasting.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ Recommended drinking from 2019–2023

£145/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE BLANC CUVÉE DES FORGETS

This comes from 3 parcels on the Volnay side of Meursault, on clay-rich soil which delivers density. This is enriched by 22% new oak. The nose offers citrus zest, pink grapefruit and minerals underpinning apples, pears, stone fruit and pastry shop warmth and richness. The attack is lovely, citrus elements providing refreshment to rounded orchard fruit – lovely balance.

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

£89/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. Greengold in colour, this presents very ripe, rounded, generous nose, white flowers followed by definitive pastry notes, lemon drizzle cake and tarte tatin opulence. The texture is lovely, luxuriant and leesy, poised yet flamboyant with attractive vivacity and fresh aromatics on the finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5++ to 17 Recommended drinking from 2018–2021

115/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT LES TILLETS

Here we have 30% new oak, ballast given very poor soil here. On the Puligny side, this missed the frost suffered so heavily elsewhere. Here we find a bright, lemon puff pastry nose, icing sugar and cream. The palate then presents a combination of orchard and stone fruit, honeysuckle, melon, white flowers and delicate spice. There is such attractive concentration and intensity. Really ripe this nonetheless maintains mineral focus as well as being both supple and seductive.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ to 18 Recommended drinking from 2018–2021

£215/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT LES CLOUSOTS

This is a delight. It presents honeysuckle and orchard fruit on the nose. The palate is seductive, unguarded on attack, rippling with energy within undeniable opulence. There is a good citric and mineral complement to a rounded, layered and complex palate, which is reminiscent of lemon tart with toasted notes and a long, buttery finish. The complexity here derives from complementary terroirs, the deep clay soils of Les Clous and limestone of Crotots.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018–2023+

240/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 Têtes de Murger. Hints of fennel and dill on the nose, complementing orchard fruit, white peach and melon. The palate proves warm apple pastry, gently spiced and layered with vanilla cream. This treads that very finely judged line between opulence and energy, luxuriant fruit offset by pink grapefruit definition and underlying minerals – an exciting wine, beautifully handled.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2020–2024+

£345/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK





DOMAINE 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. His daughters Adèle and Elsa are now in charge, although we were greeted by the *"retired"* Thierry, on arrival. 2016 is the daughters' first solo vintage.

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.

THE 2016 VINTAGE AT DOMAINE MATROT

The 2016 vintage ought to have been announced with a fanfare – the first Matrot sisters' vintage – where, even if Thierry is looking over their shoulders, all of the choices, vinification and *élevage* lie within Elsa and Adèle's remit, albeit well within the family tradition.

The quality of the wines is exceptional – but, sadly we have, yet again, a sad story in terms of quantity. With a warm winter the growing season started early only to be literally "nipped in the bud" by that ghastly frost of the night of 26th - 27th April.

Not everywhere was affected – but there was a lot of damage, 80% was lost in generic Bourgogne parcels but, happily the *crus* were spared. In total, they lost 60% across the piece.

Harvest started on the 20th September with the reds, in full sunshine. On the Meursault side the whites exhibit lovely tension and minerality whilst Puligny for the Domaine show more opulence. The reds present vibrant, charming fruit, with rounded, gentle tannins.

BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR

This now comes solely from the family's own vineyards. This, a brilliant ruby in colour, offers violet, rose and cherry on nose and palate, beautifully perfumed, red fruit, flowers and stony minerals to the fore, extending through a protracted finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 16 to 16.5+ Recommended drinking from 2019–2021+

165/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. A pretty ruby-cherry in colour, this enjoyed particularly good maturity in 2016. The nose is really pretty, red berries and roses to the fore, supremely floral with mineral undercurrents. The aromatics are reflected on a sprightly palate, supported by finegrained tannins and 10% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17 Recommended drinking from 2019–2023

£185/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 in the grapes.

Violets, cherries and summer pudding berries prevail on the nose and palate - vibrant fruit supported by well-integrated grainy tannins. The team worked hard to avoid over extraction and in fact the tannins are less than in 2015. The result is intense, with a long rather spiced finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 17+ Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

245/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MONTHÉLIE

Brilliant deep cherry-ruby this has a lovely colour. The nose presents a gorgeous array of red fruit and flowers, hints of mocha and stony minerals whilst the palate is structured with quite dry, grainy tannins – a fine Monthélie.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17 Recommended drinking from 2019–2023

265/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT ROUGE

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Prior to last year, we had been unable to offer this since 2011, as quantities had been almost nonexistent. It made a very welcome return to the line-up in 2015 but here with 2016 only 5 barrels were made out of a potential 20. With quantities so reduced, the wine is more muscular. It has a very pretty nose however - rose violet and cherry with an earthy, mineral backdrop. Violet-scented, vibrant, with good acidity, the palate is super-perfumed, really floral with wild blackberry fruit and *Crème de mûre*, succulent and pepper-spiced, with good backbone.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2020–2025

275/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK*

AUXEY-DURESSES

Really lovely nose - a lovely blend of sweetly perfumed pint and savoury intrigue. The palate is supple, aromatic and fleshy, supported by 15% new oak. There is no '*dur*' (hardness) in this 'Duresses'. Violet and rose, fresh and dried, are allied to red cherry – structured and elegant throughout a layered finish – very attractive.

Sadly this was one of Adèle Matrot's *"catastrophe"* when describing quantities.

Corney & Barrow Score 16 Recommended drinking from 2019–2022

£260/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK*

*Very limited quantities

VOLNAY 1ER CRU LES SANTENOTS

Santenots is at the more structured end of the spectrum 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. The Matrot family have three parcels. The two lower ones were a "*catastrophe*" in 2016, the higher parcel "normal". In all they lost 80%. What remained has resulted in a wine of great elegance and innate power. This is a brilliant jetshot ruby in colour. It has a rather charming nose, summer berries, perfumed and delicately spiced with pink pepper all layered with mocha and dark chocolate and sweet well-integrated oak, 20% new. Vibrant, this has lots of energy, drive and charm with hints of liquorice on a long, highly aromatic, layered finish. So lovely, so little.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ to 17.5+ Recommended drinking from 2021–2027

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2475/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. This would be more lucratively Chardonnay territory, but Pinot Noir works well here and is something of a Corney & Barrow favourite. This 2016 presents bakewell tart and black cherry yoghurt on the nose, blueberry with some red fruit lift. The palate is aromatic, floral and white pepper spiced, very pure, driven, focused and upbeat, finishing with fresh vitality and perfume. This is a sleeping giant with quasi citrus brightness – a lovely wine, with a layered, poised finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+ to 18 Recommended drinking from 2021–2028

£515/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY

This offers a really lovely nose - cooked orchard fruit, lemon shortcake, white flowers, melon and peach. The palate reflects the aromatics of the nose, with hints of pink grapefruit for added vitality. The texture is creamy- as melted ice cream – enriched by 5% to 10% new oak - very pretty and seductive yet with an attractive tension.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 Recommended drinking from 2018–2020

£150/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

SAINT-ROMAIN

Matrot's Saint-Romain has 30% new oak in 2016, adding a certain hedonistic opulence. This offers a really attractive, floral nose, white flowers, honeysuckle, lemon drizzle cake and orchard fruit pastries – fresh - with almond notes. The palate is fleshy but upbeat with attractive acidity - allied to peach and melon tropical notes. Exotic, extrovert and rather lovely.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 17.5 Recommended drinking from 2018–2021

£245/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT

Initially restrained, this offers pastry shop notes on agitation, buttery apple pastries, with an opulent mid palate and complementary minerality. Stylish, driven, perfumed and focused, complex really with white flowers contributing to a rather Puligny-esque style. Very pure, there is no new oak here as there is no need with such rich *terroir* – a lovely wine, beautifully crafted.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 17.5+ Recommended drinking from 2018–2021

395/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU BLAGNY

This is an attractive, shimmering pale gold in colour. Rich buttery pastry commands the nose, combined with an appealing sense of minerals. Here orchard fruit and warm *tarte tatin* are lifted by grapefruit notes and almond. Although this sees no new oak there is still a toasted quality. The palate is rounded and opulent with a stony complement – a lovely wine with limestone adding freshness.

Corney & Barrow Score 18 Recommended drinking from 2022–2025

£545/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU CHARMES

There is an inviting, accessible nose here with flamboyant pastry shop warmth and richness, orchard fruit and white peach, layered with vanilla cream and all complemented by briny minerals. The texture is sublime, rounded and fleshy, complementary crushed shells providing added focus and complexity. This is a stunning wine, elegant, rich and sophisticated with an extremely long, poised finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 18 to 18+ Recommended drinking from 2021–2025+

£595/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

*Very limited quantities

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU PERRIÈRES

This sees no new wood, just oak at one to three years old. This has a very attractive nose, tremendously gregarious with almond, flowers, white peach, melon and warm apple pastries – very inviting. The aromatics are mirrored in beautifully textured palate, orchard fruit with hints of the exotic, all refreshed by citrus. Here we have commendable intensity and concentration, a complex, layered, serious wine – long and elegant.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ to 18.5 Recommended drinking from 2021–2025

 $\pounds 695/\text{case of 12 bottles, in bond UK*}$

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU LA QUINTESSENCE

As ever there is 50% new oak here, a nod in effect to the American market, but the wine has earned considerable traction here in the UK too. Extraordinary, given there is no new wood in previous wines, this presents a similar nose, vanilla ice-cream and warm apple tart allied to lemon shortcake. Very unlike Matrot's general style, this combines opulence with buttered toasted notes – finishing long.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2021–2025

£595/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU LES CHALUMEAUX

Tasted after Quintessence, this felt like a return to the Matrot *délicatesse* - white flowers, almond blossom and crushed shell minerals in evidence. The palate is quite taut – adroit – so young, orchard and stone fruit waiting in the wings. Pure, fresh, lithe and with lovely focus, this is refined and complex extending through to a protracted finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ Recommended drinking from 2021–2025

£595/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK*

*Very limited quantities



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.

We were told before tasting that Henri produced only 7 to 8 barrels instead of 45 *–"problématique.*"

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

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This will not be bottled until July 2018. The nose offers compote of apple and pear – a good concentration of fruit - mature and ripe, with wellintegrated oak. Buttery pastry and lemon shortcake are balanced by upbeat freshness – appetising.

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

£425/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

MEURSAULT 1ER CRU CLOS RICHEMONT MONOPOLE

This really wears its heart on its sleeve, with clear buttered pastry richness, exotic fruit, warm lemon shortcake and rich, toasted biscuit notes – vanilla rich with some spiced character.

Corney & Barrow Score 16+ Recommended drinking from 2020–2023

2495/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

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, until her death in 2015.

Corney & Barrow is the lead importer of Domaine Leflaive in the UK, Singapore and Thailand. The Domaine Leflaive 2016s were among the first wines released, in December 2017.





DOMAINE FRANÇOIS CARILLON

François Carillon is part of a lineage going 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 retirement 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 2016s will be released in March 2018.

SANTENAY

DOMAINE JUSTIN GIRARDIN



We are delighted to incorporate in this offer for the first time the wines of Justin Girardin. We started working with Justin in the 2015 vintage, his inaugural solo year at the helm of this family domaine.

The Girardin family traces its Burgundian roots back to 1570, with Justin Girardin being the 13th generation of *vignerons*. Following studies in Beaune and Bordeaux, and a vintage in Tasmania, Justin returned to the Domaine in 2010. He worked alongside his parents, Valérie & Jacques, who had bought the domaine from his uncle, the renowned Vincent Girardin, at the same time as Vincent shifted his focus to Meursault. 2015 was the first vintage labelled under Justin's own name.

Domaine Justin Girardin is a 17 hectare estate, based in Santenay, with holdings stretching north to Pommard and Savigny. Viticulture follows *lutte raisonée* principles, adhering as closely as possible to natural disciplines without being fully organic. The soils here are similar to those of Chassagne-Montrachet, which lies immediately to the north.

We have chosen to offer three *premier cru* Santenays and a *village* Pommard. The latter is juicy and delectable... from an appellation that doesn't usually abound in these traits – highly recommended. How to choose between the Santenays though? The two extremes are Clos Rousseau, for age-worthiness and substance, and Beauregard, for delicacy and approachability, with Maladière sitting between the two stylistically.

SANTENAY 1ER CRU BEAUREGARD

Beauregard is the highest-lying of Justin Girardin's Santenay sites, around 50 metres above the others, on the Chassagne side of the appellation. The most immediately attractive of the three, suited to earlier drinking. This sees 20% new oak, as do all the *premiers crus*. Bright red berries, with fine, assertive tannins, which steer the fruit admirably. Lovely buoyant acidity lifts the mid-palate, through to a crisp, clipped finish. Great stuff, hugely drinkable. 6,000 bottles have been made from each of the last two vintages.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 Recommended drinking from 2020–2026

135/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

SANTENAY 1ER CRU MALADIÈRE

There is an extra dimension of fruit ripeness here, together with a heightened sense of juicy delectability. A lovely fleshiness of fruit, combined with clove, aniseed and lavender. Maladière occupies the Domaine's middle ground stylistically: pretty yet substantial, the best of both worlds perhaps. In 2016, just 2,500 bottles were produced. 20% new oak.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2021–2027

125/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

SANTENAY 1ER CRU CLOS ROUSSEAU

Clos Rousseau has deeper soils and its vines' roots have dug further, which seems to confer a greater profundity and concentration on the resulting wine. The most age-worthy of the three. Candied red berry and kirsch on the nose. The palate is crunchily red fruited and almost shockingly pure on the entry, with sucrosity building on the mid-palate, through to a sweetly fruited finish. The tannins are chalky and substantial, without being overbearing. Good ageing potential here. In 2016, 12,500 bottles were made.

Corney & Barrow Score 18 Recommended drinking from 2022–2028

125/case of 6 bottles, in bond UK

POMMARD

The Domaine's Pommard is made from four parcels, two in Les Vignots, one in Les Cras and another in Les Combes. This saw 23% new oak in 2016. Darkly fruited, as befits this more structured appellation, but with a sweetness of fruit and fresh lightness of touch which is truly commendable. In 2016, 3,600 bottles were produced.

Corney & Barrow Score 17.5+ Recommended drinking from 2020–2026

£185/case of 6 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.

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MÂCON-VERZÉ

Verzé is a village to the north west of Mâcon. Sheltered by hills, it enjoys views over the Saône river, a tributary of the Rhône.



DOMAINES LEFLAIVE

"The least expensive fine white wine in the world" - flippant perhaps but potentially true. What used to be a 'continuity 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. The Domaine 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 and Singapore. The 2016 was released in December, in the main Domaine Leflaive offer.

MÂCON-VERZÉ

"The least expensive fine wine in the world" a phrase coined many years ago and which has now stuck... largely because it is difficult to disagree!

The 2016 comes from six parcels, Les Chênes, En Perret, Le Monté, Les Cassons, Escolles and Les Muses. It is a beautiful wine, white yellow in colour and with a perfume that combines a citrus, zesty mineral quality with an initially subdued creamy richness. The palate is seductive, lush but with a crisp acidity, nice weight and a delectably supple finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 to 18 Recommended drinking from 2018 - 2020

£240/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK £270/case of 6 magnums, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ

DOMAINE CORNIN

Domaine Cornin is a small family-owned producer in the village of Chaintré, deep in the heart of the Mâconnais. Run by Dominique Cornin and his son Romain, the vineyards lie within the confines of the Pouilly-Fuissé appellation, of which Chaintré is apparently the warmest village. Does this give a certain weight and richness to the wines?

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. While the Mâcon-Villages are fermented in vats, the Pouilly-Fuissé are fermented in oak barrels, of which only approximately 5% is new oak.

Domaine Cornin also makes our very successful Corney & Barrow White Burgundy, which is not in this offer (as we don't release it *en primeur*) but which you must seek out if you don't know it already!

MÂCON-CHAINTRÉ LES SERREUXDIÈRES

Golden straw in colour, this has an alluring stony, flinty nose, baked orchard fruit refreshed by citrus zest. Left to open up a little, there is an appealing richness due to extended lees contact (11 months) and a poignant purity of fruit resulting, one imagines, from strict biodynamic disciplines. The palate is delicious, rounded, ripe, yet impeccably balanced, opulent and fresh.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ Recommended drinking from 2018-2022

135/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ CLOS REYSSIÉ

Élevage is in *demi-muids* here as for all the single vineyard Pouilly-Fuissé. This presents an attractive apple tart nose, stone and orchard fruit underpinned by minerals – fresh and vibrant. The palate echoes the aromatics of the palate, adding hints of honey and lychee – lovely wine.

Corney & Barrow Score 16.5 to 17 Recommended drinking from 2018–2020+

250/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK



POUILLY-FUISSÉ LES PLESSYS

This is made from two east/south-east facing vineyards, with a substantial proportion of clay in the soil, making for a little more power in the wine. Plessys offers a very focused nose, lime and lemon zest, lemon grass and kiwi fruit, white peach and melon- a cornucopia of fruit – very appealing. The nose being so adroit and precise, the generosity of the palate is a surprise, well-rounded and opulent but regaining direction on a long citrus finish.

Corney & Barrow Score 17+ to 18 Recommended drinking from 2018–2022

250/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

POUILLY-FUISSÉ LES CHEVRIÈRES

This is very floral on the nose, white flowers, and honeysuckle adorning white peach and lemon shortcake. The palate, reflecting the nose is perfumed and ripe, refreshed by grapefruit zest. This expertly walks the tightrope, with opulence and tension in perfect measure.

Corney & Barrow Score 17 Recommended drinking from 2018–2022

265/case of 12 bottles, in bond UK

To order

Please call Singapore Email

+65 6221 8530 singapore@corneyandbarrow.com

These wines are released *en primeur*. Delivery dates to be confirmed.

SINGAPORE

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