

# PRESS REVIEW

Vintage 2022

# Le Monde

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## The organic spirit of Albéric Bichot

Proud of his 47 certifications, this Burgundian producer advocates a “change of mindset” regarding the use of pesticides.

His christian name may be unusual, but he himself tends not to put himself above the parapet. Albéric Bichot shows all the signs of disarming modesty: softly spoken, attentive, simply dressed and gently smiling. Surrounded by a group of grape pickers and sat at the end of the table, he shows no signs of being the boss. He calls them his colleagues and they, in return, speak of “our estates”. He explains “there are no gurus or worker hierarchy”.

Does he take on too much? He is after all one of the four largest traditional wine merchants in Burgundy: since 1996, he has been head of the house of Albert Bichot in Beaune, a family business that goes back six generations. He manages 105 hectares of vineyard and six domaines which extend from the north to the south of the region, taking in Chablis, Moulin-à-Vent, Côte-de-Nuits and Côte-de-Beaune.

He also buys in grapes from 70 partner growers across a further 350 hectares: grapes that will end up as Albert Bichot wine. No less than 137 different wines in fact, reflecting the veritable mosaic that is the Burgundy vineyard. The smallest production is of the magnificent Richebourg Grand Cru - barely 300 bottles, the fruit of a parcel of just 0.06 ha of vines. The largest is the fine Chablis that comes from Domaine Long-Depaquit (40 hectares), producing an average of 180,000 bottles a year. He employs 172 people and runs a business that turns over €60 million. What's more, he is the dominant buyer at the historic Hospices de Beaune wine auction, spending €2.8 million in 2019.

### “A honeypot for big money”

He is therefore a man of stature, living in an elegant house in Pommard. However, before taking you to look at his vines, he shows you his prestigious neighbours in Morey-Saint-Denis where a steep track divides two vineyards. On the one side, Clos de Tart which belongs to François Pinault, on the other Clos des Lambrays which belongs to Bernard Arnault - two minute vineyards that these two business moguls each bought for a fortune. “This area is a honeypot for big money.”

Albéric Bichot is worried about the investors who are driving land values. “When I hear that there is a vineyard for sale, it is often very expensive and too late. I would be foolish to saddle the business with debt simply for the sake of a couple of rows of vines; I prefer to buy the grapes I need”. He has a saying “In Bourgogne, values are in decline but value is on the up”.

One of his values is to take an active interest in his neighbours. “We live here in vineyards packed tightly side by side. We cannot just shut ourselves up in our château: we must coexist with our neighbours, respect the community. Especially because this is an oasis where we have full employment - we need to remind ourselves how lucky we are.”

It has to be said that Albéric Bichot is keen to support the region as much as his own estates. For example he is patron of no less than six festivals and events, one of which is “Livres en Vignes” (Books amongst the Vines) at the Clos Vougeot. Does he feel Burgundian? “Of course! I have travelled widely, but I have my roots here.....”. In fact in 1983, he undertook his first expedition to the far north of Canada, accompanied by Nicolas Vanier. He also went as far as Adélie Land in Antarctica (Adélie is the christian name of his daughter), has shining eyes when he talks about the writer Jack London, spent a day in 1989 in Polynesia with Paul-Emile Victor, his childhood hero, and met Jean-Louis Etienne before his second expedition to Canada's far north in 1997.

“My convictions are a result of my travels”. Key is that wine harms neither nature nor those who live in the vines. He explains “We must never forget that wine is a luxury product, not a necessity. We can get by without luxuries, especially if they are harmful. It is totally reasonable that society expects grape growers to be accountable for the pesticides they use. In the vineyard we need a change of mindset.”

This is precisely what he is practising. His 36 hectares of vineyard in Côte-de-Nuits, Côte-de-Beaune and Côte Chalonnaise have had organic certification with Ecocert since 2014. The 65 hectares of Domaine Long-Depaquit in Chablis were certified Haute Valeur Environnementale (HVE) - Level 3, the highest level - in 2019. He is currently undertaking some major trials on organics there in 9 hectares of Premier and Grand Cru vineyards to understand better the nature of the soils in this coolest part of Burgundy. Furthermore, 30 hectares of the grapes that he buys in are also organically farmed, and this figure will continue to increase. As he reasons with his neighbours “If their land is treated with chemicals, we should at least talk about it!”

With wines from 47 different appellations certified as organic, Albert Bichot probably offers the largest variety of organic wines in Burgundy. But the certification has only been mentioned on the wine labels since 2018. “What point is there in making a song and dance about being organic only to revert to conventional viticulture two years later when there is a difficult year?” 2019, for instance, was chaotic climatically and the harvest was half that of 2018. But such ups and downs will not make him change course. “We are totally committed to this, we have reviewed all our processes and we have trained our workers accordingly” explains Christophe Chauvel, vineyard manager, who adds “I have seen estates that go organic for short-term commercial advantage and end up giving up on it. Whereas here, you cannot imagine how excited I am about it.”



**2022 Côte de Nuits reds**

Assistant technical director Cyrille Jacquelin (who is also responsible for the Clos Frantin wines) commented that 2022 "initially confronted us with similar concerns that manifested themselves in 2021 but because almost everyone, us included, is now pruning later, we managed to largely avoid any serious frost damage. However, our vines in Gevrey did suffer some June storm damage that had a minor effect on yields. The flowering passed reasonably well with relatively little shatter though June, which was warm and wet, did have a short period where the mildew was threatening but once the season turned dry and hot, it was quickly over. There was however some blocage due to hydric stress and as such, the véraison was extended. This also complicated picking dates so we started with the Bichot vines on the 25th of August and then followed with the domaine vines on the 30th. The fruit was clean and ripe so there wasn't much sorting necessary. Yields were the best we've had since 2018 at between 40 to 45 hl/ha with pretty much perfect potential alcohols between 13 and 13.5%. Acidities, while certainly not high, were sufficient to avoid problems and maintain the proper balance. We used from 25 to 35% whole clusters, which I think helped with the freshness that the wines are displaying today. As to the wines, I wouldn't describe them as exactly classic, they have just the right amount of ripeness and freshness to be appealing while allowing the underlying terroir to be recognizable. In sum, I really quite like the wines, both qualitatively and stylistically." I would agree with Jacquelin as these are some of the best wines I've seen from the maison side of Bichot in several vintages.

**2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Secret de Famille: 86** **TOP VALUE SELECTION**

Bright aromas include those of both red and dark pinot fruit, spice and a whiff of violet. There is fine richness, especially for a wine at this level, to the vibrant flavors that possess good volume that seems to build on the rustic and acceptably persistent finish. While this could be enjoyed young, I suspect that 2 to 3 years of keeping would help to add depth. 2025+

**2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or "Clos Frantin" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 86-89**

Bright and fresh aromas include those of red cherry, raspberry and an interesting hint of spiced tea. There is good volume and richness to the delicious middleweight flavors that possess a succulent mid-palate. This is a very good effort for its level and one that should repay a few years of keeping if desired. 2026+

**2022 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Murots" Domaine du Clos Frantin: 89-91**

Deft but not invisible wood frames ripe and distinctly earthy and sauvage-suffused aromas that enjoy a floral top note. There is both excellent intensity and volume to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that are supported by unusually bright acidity in the context of the 2022 vintage, all wrapped in a balanced, youthfully austere and only moderately rustic finale. This crunchy effort could be enjoyed young or held for up to a decade. 2030+

**2022 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Evocelles": 89-92** **TOP VALUE SELECTION**

This is the most floral wine in the range at present with a cool and restrained array of red and blue pinot fruit, violet, lavender and crushed fennel aromas. The notably refined and intense middleweight flavors also flash ample minerality on the beautifully textured and youthfully austere finale. This is an excellent Gevrey villages and worth your interest. 2030+

**2022 Nuits St. Georges 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Chaînes Carteaux": 90-93**

Here the wood is slightly more prominent though still discreet on the slightly riper liqueur-like aromas of red and black cherry, earth and a hint of crushed fennel. There is even better energy to the middleweight flavors that are a combination of power and seductiveness, all wrapped in a less refined but more complex finale. This is clearly from Nuits but not to the point of rusticity. 2032+

**2022 Nuits St. Georges 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Château-Gris": 89-92**

A cool, airy and ripe nose combines notes of both red and dark currant, spice and a violet top note. There is better volume and richness than usual to the overtly mineral-driven middleweight flavors that conclude in a moderately austere and lingering finish. At least some patience should prove to be beneficial. 2030+

**2022 Morey St. Denis 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Les Sorbets": 90-92**

A deft application of wood easily permits the cool and relatively perfumed aromas of red berries, dark currant and warm earth to be appreciated. The finer medium-bodied flavors are plump and round while retaining a lovely sense of vibrancy that carries over to the nicely long and balanced finish where the supporting tannins are noticeably fine-grained. 2030+

*Burghound.com 2022 Vintage Selections: The "Top Value Wines" are those that are generally available in the marketplace at a price point of no more than approximately \$100 US; The "Sweet Spot Wines" section addresses the wide gulf between the under \$100 Top Value wines and the generally over \$350 "Don't Miss Wines."*

**2022 Côte de Nuits reds****2022 Vosne-Romanée *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 89-91**

A spicier and less earthy combination features notes of the very pretty essence of red cherry, exotic tea and a hint of incense. There is once again and really lovely texture to the succulent and nicely refined medium weight flavors that possess fine mid-palate density where the dry extract helps to buffer the moderately firm tannic spine supporting the powerful finish. 2030+

**2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Les Chabiots": 91-93**

There is enough reduction present to overshadow the fruit though a touch of spice does peek through the funk. The rich and caressing medium weight flavors possess a seductive mid-palate texture that contrasts somewhat with the powerful, serious and solidly constructed finish that offers excellent length. There is a perceptible hint of warmth but overall, this is quite promising provided you cellar it for at least a few years first. 2032+

**2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Les Amoureuses": 91-94****SWEET SPOT WINE**

This is also moderately reduced at present. Otherwise there is both good richness and vibrancy to the utterly delicious medium-bodied flavors that exude evident minerality on the tightly wound, balanced and youthfully austere finale that also displays a touch of backend warmth. This is both lovely and classy though clearly in need of at least mid-term cellaring. 2034+

**2022 Vosne-Romanée 1<sup>er</sup> Cru "Les Malconsorts" *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-94**

(from a large 1.76 ha parcel). Here the even spicier nose is comprised by notes of red cherry, dark currant and a lovely array of floral elements. There is excellent volume, concentration and power to the vibrant larger-bodied flavors that retain good focus on the dusty, sappy, firmly austere and compact finale. It's indisputably built-to-age and extended patience will absolutely be necessary. 2034+

**2022 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru: 92-94**

Enough wood to merit mentioning frames spicy, cool and airy aromas of various red berries, the sauvage, plenty of floral influence as well as a hint of wet stone character. There is again excellent volume to the impressively intense medium weight flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract where the latter helps to buffer the firm tannins supporting the youthfully austere, compact and built-to-age finale. Good stuff but patience needed. 2034+

**2022 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 91-94**

(from a .72 ha parcel). More evident wood and menthol nuances stop short of fighting with the cool and surprisingly high-toned aromas of ripe essence of red currant and soft earth scents. There is impressive richness to the succulent, even seductive, medium weight plus flavors that also flash focused power on the firm, youthfully austere and highly compact finish. Like the Malconsorts, this is a 'buy and forget you own it' wine. 2034+

**2022 Echézeaux Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 90-92**

(from a .99 ha parcel in Champs Traversin). Relatively generous wood actually does fight somewhat with the spicy and fresh mix of mostly red cherry and lavender scents. The rich, plump and seductively textured medium weight flavors possess good punch. There is sufficient structure for this to age and improve over the next 15 years that much more depth may well develop. 2034+

**2022 Grands-Echézeaux *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-94**

(from a .6 ha parcel). An attractively spicy nose combines a wide range of elements that include red and dark cherry, raspberry, violet, exotic tea and sandalwood. The super-sleek yet solidly intense and powerful big-bodied flavors are shaped by firm yet relatively fine-grained tannins on the youthfully austere finish. This is a big wine with the structure to match and as such, it's very much going to need a long snooze in a cool cellar. 2037+

**2022 Chambertin *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-95**

Here the moderately wooded nose is sufficiently reduced as to be difficult to properly read. More interesting are the supple and caressing but quite punchy larger-bodied flavors that brim with minerality on the austere, compact and saliva-inducing finish that delivers simply huge length. This does need to develop better depth but given the extended potential aging curve, more complexity will almost certainly develop. 2037+

**2022 Richebourg Grand Cru *Domaine du Clos Frantin*: 92-95**

A moderately toasty nose grudgingly offers up its aromas of exotic tea, orange peel, various red berries and a nice array of floral elements. The rich and bold yet reasonably refined larger-scaled flavors possess fine mid-palate density thanks to the mouthcoating sap that helps to buffer the very firm and austere tannic spice shaping the impressively long finale. This is borderline old school in style so it's not going to drink well early, indeed I would advise not even thinking about opening a bottle for at least 10 years. 2037+

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## CHABLIS 2022



Christy Canterbury MW

### **2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Neon yellow in color, this vibrates with youthful energy and quivering acidity. The richly fruited medium body tastes of pluots and nectarines layered with sweet spices. The pastry crust flavors of the finish go on and on. As usual, this is a dynamo of a wine. It's impressive now but will only become more enticing.

95

### **2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

The pristine clean fruit soars from the glass: sweet yellow plums, ripe jackfruit and lemon zest. The medium body is finely balanced by tightly wound acidity. Fresh mushroom and chalk undertones break into the solid finish.

95

### **2022, Chablis Bougros Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Incredibly floral with delicate spring flowers, this turns into liberally spiced baked peaches and crumble topping on the palate. Voluptuous, layered and vibrant, this was the most immediately charming of the Grand Crus at this domaine. But its marked concentration shows that it will show well down the road, too.

95

### **2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

This shows an enticing apple cider and tarte tatin nose. The attack is broad and showy with excellent juiciness and ample concentration. The structure is finessed and seamless, effectively hidden behind all of the baby fat. This will be a crowd pleaser!

94

### **2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Italian lemon ice, baked puff pastry and kitchen spice sing on the nose. The fruit purity is impressive, and the sculpting acidity gracefully structures the medium body. Gimonnet says this wine tends to firm up once it has been in bottle for a while. So try one early if you can't resist, but then let the others sit for several years.

94

### **2022, Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Neon yellow in color, this has a dashing, forward nose of toasted spices, pie crust and juicy pears. The palate is tantalizingly smooth, and the acidity is fresh but integrated. The finish adds on a light pastry cream note.

94

### **2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Clean and fresh with golden apple core, sea salt and Brazil nut, this is layered, nuanced and compelling. Winemaker Louis Gimonnet says that the grapes here—on vines sitting on a 45% slope—are microscopic in size!

93

### **2022, Chablis Montmains 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Notably ripe and flatteringly fruity, this is a mouthful of succulent cantaloupe and buttered, toasted brioche. The palate has a lightly custardy feel, but there is ample, supporting acidity. This is a rather voluptuous Premier Cru that is good for those looking for a less chiseled bottling.

92

### **2022, Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Fresh brie and chalk start off the aromas. The medium-bodied palate has good flavor concentration with generous, earthy undertones. The medium finish has a crunchy texture, making this a great wine for the table.

92

### **2022, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

This smells of dried spices. The supple palate has good, apple-driven intensity before the finish layers on water crackers and raw oatmeal.

92

### **2022, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Few producers declare Les Beugnons on the label. Tucked into the end of the Valvan valley, it offers a relatively cool expression of the bigger and generally sunny Vaillons climat. Yellow apple skin, freshly-drawn milk and almonds mesh on the crisp, lively palate.

91

### **2022, Chablis, Domaine Long-Depaquit**

Surprisingly textured on the attack for a wine that sees only stainless steel, this feels bright with acidic tang. Herbs, straw and flint dominate the nose and palate, giving this a leaner profile than many of the more fruit-driven Chablis village wines in this vintage.

88



## VINTAGE 2022



Taster: William Kelley

January 2024

*It had been some years since my last visit to this historic producer, and my tasting with Alberic Bichot and technical director Matthieu Mangenot focused on their domaine cuvées, all farmed organically and certified as such, complemented by some of the highlights of their négociant portfolio. The various domaine holdings are managed separately by independent teams in the Côte d'Or, divided between Domaine de Clos Frantin and the Château Gris, both in Nuits-Saint-Georges, and the Domaine de Pavillon in Pommard, reinforcing the link between the vines and the winery. The style here is elegant and understated, privileging purity of fruit and gentle extraction, a formula that worked well in 2022. Whites are bottled under Diam technical closures to ensure consistency in aging from bottle to bottle. All in all, as the notes attest, this is a very solid portfolio that reflects the house's progress over the last decade.*

### **COTE DE NUITS REDS**

#### **Chambertin Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**93-95**

There are only four barrels of the 2022 Chambertin Grand Cru, but it's the king of the cellar chez Bichot, bursting with aromas of cherries, dark berries, smoked duck, exotic spices and orange rind. Full-bodied, ample and satiny, it's layered and concentrated, with a deep core of lively fruit and a long, resonant finish.

#### **Echezeaux Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**90-92**

From a parcel that's gradually being replanted with superior vine genetics, the 2022 Echézeaux Grand Cru delivers notes of plums, berries, petals and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, bright and fine-boned palate, with good persistence on the finish.

#### **Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**90-92**

The 2022 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru opens in the glass with aromas of raspberries, plums, spices and blood orange, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and layered palate that's suave and charming; indeed, it's less overtly structured than the domaine's Malconsorts.

#### **Vosne-Romanée 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Malconsorts Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**90-92**

The 2022 Vosne-Romanée 1er Cru Les Malconsorts opens in the glass with notes of plums, sweet exotic spices and petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and vibrant palate that's quite youthfully structured, as is often the case with this site.

#### **Chambolle-Musigny 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Amoureuses 2022**

**92-94**

Wafting from the glass with notes of cherries, sweet red berries, petals, licorice and spices, the 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Amoureuses is medium to full-bodied, satiny and pure, with a pretty, perfumed core of fruit framed by melting tannins, concluding with a saline finish.

#### **Chambolle-Musigny 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Chabiots 2022**

**90-91**

Notes of petals, red berries and orange oil introduce the 2022 Chambolle-Musigny 1er Cru Les Chabiots, a medium to full-bodied, ample and fine-boned wine with a pure core of fruit, lively acids and a saline finish.

#### **Morey-Saint-Denis 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Sorbets 2022**

**90-92**

Produced from purchased fruit, the 2022 Morey-Saint-Denis 1er Cru Les Sorbets bursts with aromas of plums, spices, raw cocoa and orange zest. Medium to full-bodied, ample and lively, it's supple and polished, concluding with a saline finish.

#### **Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 2022**

**89-91**

The 2022 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles opens in the glass with notes of pretty berries, petals, orange zest and cherry. Medium to full-bodied, bright and satiny, it's lively and saline, reflecting this hillside lieu-dit's stony soils.

#### **Vosne-Romanée Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**88-90**

From Mazières and Damodes, the 2022 Vosne-Romanée offers up aromas of red berries, petals, orange zest and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and seamless palate that's suave and charming.

#### **Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022**

**88**

The 2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Clos Frantin derives from vines located around the domaine in Nuits-Saint-Georges. Offering up aromas of plums, cherries and spices, it's medium-bodied, supple and succulent, with supple tannins and bright acids.



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## COTE DE BEAUNE REDS

### **Corton Grand Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93**

The 2022 Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Grand Cru unwinds in the glass with aromas of red berries, sweet plums, licorice and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, ample and layered palate that's deep, concentrated and lively, exhibiting more texture and plenitude than its premier cru counterpart.

### **Aloxe-Corton 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Clos des Maréchaudes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 90-92**

Aromas of sweet berries, vine smoke, spices and raw cocoa introduce the 2022 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Clos des Maréchaudes, a medium to full-bodied, satiny and lively wine that's charming and precise.

### **Pommard 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Rugiens Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93**

The 2022 Pommard 1er Cru Les Rugiens is one of the high points of Bichot's portfolio, offering up aromas of plums, red berries, rose petals and raw cocoa, followed by a medium to full-bodied, sweet and fleshy palate that's lively, layered and nicely concentrated.

### **Pommard Clos des Ursulines Domaine du Pavillon 2022 88-90**

From a monopole exploited by Bichot, the 2022 Pommard Clos des Ursulines reveals aromas of red berries, plums, orange zest and smoke, followed by a medium-bodied, lively and fine-boned palate that's suave and charming, underpinned by bright acids and framed by powdery tannins.



## WHITES

### **Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru Domaine du Pavillon 2022 92-94**

Aromas of pear, waxy citrus, peach and hazelnuts introduce the 2022 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, a full-bodied, satiny and layered wine that's racy and concentrated, with bright acids and a saline finish. It's derived from a parcel in climat Languettes in Aloxe.

### **Beaune 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Clos des Mouches Domaine du Pavillon 2022 91-93**

The 2022 Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches is lovely, revealing aromas of crisp orchard fruit, white flowers, citrus zest and wet stones, followed by a medium to full-bodied, satiny and chiseled palate that's racy and vibrant, with bright acids and a chalky finish. It's derived from a parcel at the very top of the slope, below the tree line.



### **Meursault 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Charmes Domaine du Pavillon 2022 90-91**

Notes of buttery orchard fruit, white flowers and fresh pastry introduce the 2022 Meursault 1er Cru Charmes, a medium to full-bodied, broad and rich wine with a satiny attack that segues into a fleshy core of fruit, concluding with a succulent finish.

### **Meursault Domaine du Pavillon 2022 89**

Aromas of white flowers, pear, green apple and almond paste introduce the 2022 Meursault Village, a medium to full-bodied, ample and satiny palate that's seamless, giving and charming.

### **Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Terrasses Château-Gris 2022 90**

From some 0.70 hectares of low-yielding terraced vines comes the 2022 Nuits-Saint-Georges Blanc Les Terrasses, a medium-bodied, ample and incisive wine redolent of citrus zest, white flowers and crisp orchard fruit. With impressive concentration and cut, it's a strong effort from the Bichot team.

### **Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 2022 87**

The 2022 Bourgogne Côte d'Or Blanc Secret de Famille derives from the Côte de Beaune. Offering up aromas of pear, honeycomb and white flowers, followed by a medium-bodied, ample and satiny palate, it's lively and mouthwatering, concluding with a delicately honeyed finish.





Sarah Marsh MW

**Burgundy 2022: Chablis Report**

**2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94-95**

La Moutonne is a 5.8-acre (2.35ha) plot, 95% in Vaudésirs and 5% in Les Preuses, on the warm slope at the mouth of the Vaudésir valley. Elegance and tension combine with greater harmony than Vaudésir. It is silkier and more instantly at ease, and the finish is intensely lingering, with bright fluidity. 2028–2040.

**2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 95**

From three plots about 60, 30, and 29 years old. Caramel and flowers. Rich and generous up-front, neatly woven with ripe fruit and slicing freshness. A complete and balanced wine, with supple generosity and intensity. Powerful but so elegant, fresh, and sophisticated. 2028–2040.

**2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 94-95**

Almost warmer than Les Clos, and at the top it is much riper than at the bottom, with a 40–50% slope. Picked all together. Rich aroma. It is seductive and ripe up-front, and super-intense, but not broad. Quite the opposite. Incredibly focused and powerful on the finish as if squeezed into a tube. Exceedingly long and very salty. This really needs time. Probably the richest, but also one of the best, 2022 Vaudésir that I tasted. 2028-2040 .

**2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94**

Full, elegant, and airy. This is breezy fresh. Fine, slivery quality. Volume and intensity, yet it sparkles on the delicate and persistent finish. 2028–2035.

**2022, Chablis Bougros Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94**

From vines more than 70 years old, and 9,000 vines per hectare, on the Côte de Bouguerots. It's rich, generous, and punchy. Powerful shoulder, savory minerality and intensity to finish. 2028–2036.

**2022, Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-93**

The parcel is on the plateau. Floral aromas, white peach, scented. All matured in 500-liter barrels. Silky and seductive and ripely rich, yet it has very lively, fresh acidity. Flows across the palate to a long and satin-textured finish. 2028–2036.

**2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92**

A thin topsoil, with a depth of 32 inches (80cm) at most, all on a 35–50% slope. Massal selection, planted in the 1950s and '60s. Tiny concentrated berries. Usually this parcel yields only 35hl/ha, and in 2022 it was just 25hl/ha. Uses a touch of oak to give some roundness, as this is very mineral. Straight, focused, and concentrated; it has good tension and wet stone to finish. Vitality and tight edges. Channeled. Love it. 2027-2035.







Charles Curtis MW

## Vintage 2022

### CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin: 96

Bichot's 0.17-hectare holding at the top of the slope has produced an evocative, lovely wine with a forward pomegranate and red plum fruit with hints of spice, smoke, and earth. The texture is silky and more approachable than the 2020 vintage at a similar point. The vines are worked by horse and farmed organically, with everything done by hand—truly 'à l'ancien' in the best way. The results speak for themselves since this is a delicious wine. It will be drinkable reasonably early on but has the substance for long-term ageing.



### MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES SORBETS: 94

Very 'Côte de Nuits' in style, this lovely wine features a rich blackberry fruit aroma with hints of earth and spice. The texture is rich and dense, with a pleasant persistence to the finish. The grapes are purchased from a large plot down-slope from the Clos des Lambrays and Clos de Tart on the other side of town in the premier cru. Some producers spell this climat Les Sorbès. The grapes are partially destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in cask (one-third new).



### POMMARD 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES RUGIENS Domaine du Pavillon: 94

The Rugiens from Domaine du Pavillon enchants with its subtle depth of plummy fruit aromas and hints of earth and smoke. The texture is tannic but not overly so, and there is an interestingly supple quality to the texture that makes this wine intriguing. The grapes come from a third of a hectare located next to the Hospices parcel, just above Chaponnières. The wine is mainly destemmed and carefully fermented before ageing in cask (half new). Wait three to five years before opening for optimal results.



### POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES, Monopole, Domaine du Pavillon: 94

Picked early but not excessively so (3 – 6 September), this monopole of Bichot's Domaine de Pavillon has produced a wine with bright plum and cherry aromas and a hint of fresh violets. The texture is silky and approachable, yet it does not lack the tannin one looks for in Pommard. The vineyard team made several passes through the vineyard to ensure that the wine retained a charming freshness, and the result was lovely.



### SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE LES GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon: 93

This lively, expressive wine has bright notes of blue and purple fruit — plums, blueberries, fresh violets — and an attractively lively texture with light body and medium pressure. Alain Serveau relates that he has always had a 'defensive strategy' on extraction, preferring a delicate expression of Pinot, ideally suited to this elegant terroir. The domaine organically farms 0.57 hectares in this climat on the alluvial soils of the Rhoin; the grapes are mostly destemmed and gently fermented before ageing in cask over two winters (20% new).



### CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon: 94

Bichot owns a parcel of just over a hectare in the slightly reddish soils of Corton Languettes that produces this alluring Corton Charlemagne with aromas of ripe apricot, quince, and a suggestion of acacia flowers and spice. The texture is dense, almost chewy — Alain Serveau notes, 'It has almost the structure of a red'. In fact, the parcel was one planted to Pinot, but Serveau prefers the Chardonnay, which they pick early (4 September in 2022) to preserve freshness.



### MEURSAULT 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES CHARMES Domaine du Pavillon: 94

The initial attack of the Meursault Charmes from Domaine du Pavillon is rich with aromas of ripe apple and peach with hints of flowers, butter, and hazelnut. On the palate, the richness continues with a delightful depth. The wine, however, is not heavy since it is balanced by fresh acidity and an almost tannic tactile sense that makes the wine 'chewy' and helps propel it to an elegantly lingering finish. The grapes are from three parcels that total 1.17 hectares; two are in Charmes Dessus, and a small one is in Charmes Dessous.



### NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES LES TERRASSES, Monopole, Château Gris: 94

Les Terrasses is Bichot's proprietary name for their 0.67 parcel of Chardonnay atop the lieu-dit Les Crots. In this cool, steep site in a former limestone quarry, the Chardonnay is planted on individual stakes (en echalas) and worked by hand. The wine it produced has a lovely, crisp, lemony acidity, even in a hot year like 2022. The grapes are picked by hand and carefully sorted before pressing and fermentation in cask (one-third new), where the wine will age over two winters.





Jasper Morris MW

## 2022: THE VINTAGE REPORT

### REDS FROM COTE DE NUITS

#### 2022, Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru 94-97

Picked by the Bichot team on 5th September. This looks and smells like it was picked at the right moment. A fine mid purple with a wealth of luscious red fruit balanced by good acidity. Full of energy, a quality fresh but deep raspberry, with length as well. Drink from 2030-2040.

#### 2022, Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 94-96

Rich mid purple. The nose offers a regal suave density. Very complete, an exciting very balanced wine. The fruit returns in little waves of red fruit and there is a decent persistence. Drink from 2030-2040.

#### 2022, Clos-Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96

An attractive bright purple. Little fruit on the nose because Clos Vougeot doesn't do that in youth. Fills the mouth in its well-structured way, a shaving of coconut, very intense pure raspberry fruit, absolutely portraying a clean-cut, lantern-jawed image. Drink from 2032-2040.

#### 2022, Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 92-95

One of the slightly darker purple colours, with a ripe and dark edged fruit. I sense the whole bunches more here than in the Clos Vougeot. Becomes more nuanced further back on the palate, with greater energy to the fruit. I was not sure from the nose but the palate works with a good balance between the slightly riper fruit profile and the acidity. Drink from 2030-2038.

#### 2022, Vosne-Romanée Malconsorts 1er Cru, Domaine du Clos Frantin 93-96

A fine deep purple, with brilliance. The bouquet has the energy which we expect with that extra note of headiness. The Malconsorts opens out gorgeously and is kept fresh by a good thread of acidity. Pure, long, fine, lifted, medium plus bodied but there is a little bit of majesty here nonetheless. Drink from 2030-2038.

#### 2022, Chambolle-Musigny Les Chabiots 1er Cru 90-93

A fine mid crimson purple. This has an underlying elegance, and an acidity which, with the colour, indicates an early harvest or at least less ripe grapes. Still, that works with me. Pretty and quite good length. Drink from 2028-2035.

#### 2022, Morey-St-Denis Les Sorbets 1er Cru 91-93

More crimson than purple. A delightful nose, not too oaky, savoury in the good sense. Fine intensity, a little sucrosity, interesting wine with its own Morey character. There is a nobility which starts to emerge. Drink from 2029-2036.

#### 2022, Vosne-Romanée, Domaine du Clos Frantin 90-93

A blend of Damodes du bas and Basses Maizières, picked on 3rd and 7th September. Attractive mid purple. Some nobility to the nose but in a discreet way. This is happily balanced with excellent class, heady Vosne fruit, even some spice, then a firmer tannin, but this works really well. Damodes gives the lift, Maizières the body. Drink from 2028-2035.

#### 2022, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Evocelles 90-92

A pleasing rich purple. The bouquet has an agreeable succulence. Very slightly raisiny on the nose, but with enough acidity to work on through. A few tannins. The grapes come in from two producers, one of whom picks late (14th September), more than a week after the other, which one can see in the wine at this stage. Drink from 2028-2033.

#### 2022, Bourgogne Côte d'Or, Domaine du Clos Frantin 88-89

Fresh mid purple. Quite a lively nose. Some whole bunches here on the best pinots. There is quite significant density here, with a slightly more astringent finish, but good length, it is almost as if one can taste different pinot plants. Quite an interesting wine, I would enjoy drinking this. Drink from 2025-2027



94-97



93-96



93-96



Jasper Morris MW

**REDS FROM COTE DE BEAUNE, COTE CHALONNAISE AND BEAUJOLAIS**

**2022, Corton Clos des Maréchaudes Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 91-93**

A dense dark colour, with oak and clearly a bit of reduction at the moment. A significant weight of fruit, on the cusp of red and black, with an excellent energy. Drink from 2029-2037.

**2022, Pommard Les Rugiens 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-95**

The holding is next to the Hospices de Beaune in Les Rugiens Bas. A solid mid purple. The bouquet does not immediately speak, though the fruit is evidently adequately ripe. There is a massive sense of power on the palate, all in a lifted red fruit. This Rugiens shows the intensity of the lower part, but more the red fruit idiom of above. Excellent intensity to finish, very promising! Drink from 2030-2038.

**2022, Pommard Clos des Ursulines, Domaine du Pavillon 89-92**

Mid purple with a lighter rim. The bouquet displays primarily a clean red fruit of some class, with a touch of coconut from the oak. The mix of oak and Pommard tannins leaves a little youthful bitterness, and there are some blackcurrants in the fruit, so maybe a touch of reduction. Still, I am left with a positive feeling from the harmony and the quality of the fruit. Drink from 2028-2036.

**2022, Mercurey Champs-Martin 1er Cru, Domaine Adélie 89-90**

Lovely bright purple, lots of energy here. A fine quality of pinot fruit in this Mercurey, good density, a tighter finish with some tannins but not excessive. Ripe and dark fruit caught at the right time. Drink from 2025-2028.

**2022, Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès 92**

No deeper in colour than the straight Moulin-à-Vent but here the particularity of the terroir comes out more easily on the nose, despite oak ageing. Destemmed, which worked well with the straight Moulin-à-Vent, but here there is more of everything, some plummy red fruit but a little more in black, a fine firm structure and good length. Much more complex at the finish. Drink from 2037-2032.

**2022, Moulin-à-Vent, Domaine de Rochegrès 88-90**

A very dense purple, almost opaque. Rich and punchy, might this be overdone? The palate says no. Super-succulent but more in a vivid red fruit than black, good grains of tannins, a little point of acidity and fine length. Stays with you. Drink from 2026-2030.

**WHITES**

**2022, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-94**

Grapes grown in Les Languettes, picked on 4th September. Clear lemon yellow. This is not one of the more opulent wines, more a clean white fruit intensity. Very powerful on the palate, slightly taking over from the detail at the moment. Plenty of oak. Perhaps a little four square, though there is clearly a proper wine beneath. Drink from 2030-2036.

**2022, Meursault Les Charmes 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 92-93**

Fresh bright yellow. Very Charmes on the nose and here the oaking absolutely matches the wine. Very intense, adequate power, a little biscuit touch, enough acidity, and a clarity in the fruit profile. Weight, length, charm, all that we expect. Drink from 2029-2035.

**2022, Beaune Clos des Mouches 1er Cru, Domaine du Pavillon 91-93**

Mid yellow colour. Plenty of sunny opulence on the nose. Just a bit four square, maybe a 161/49 issue, with a spicy richness, a mini feeling of Alsace Pinot Gris, without exaggeration. A wine which is true to its own particular style. Picked early on 30th August. Drink from 2027-2033.

**2022, Nuits-St-Georges Les Terrasses, Château Gris 90-91**

Les Terrasses includes a plot converted from 1er cru red where it didn't ripen well enough. Excellent intensity, a slight banana touch, a little oak behind. Well-made and with some character. Austere but rich. Drink from 2026-2029

**2022, Mercurey Les Champs-Michaux, Domaine Adélie 88-90**

Mid lemon yellow. 15-20% new wood shows on the nose, but will integrate. Pure white fruit, then coconut from the oak, before refining to a slimmer finish, with good length. Just needs time for fruit and oak to integrate then will make a fine white Mercurey. Drink from 2025-2028.

**2022, Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay Secret de Famille 88-90**

A fuller yellow colour. The sunshine shows a little more than usual on the nose, ripe yellow plum fruit on the palate, a little warmth behind, then good acidity. A touch of toast from the barrel, very good length. This is an avowedly opulent style. Drink from 2025-2027.

**2022, Mâcon-Lugny Les Charmes 89**

Mid lemon yellow. The bouquet offers very typical Mâconnais sunny, southern chardonnay, fruit. Does what it says on the tin, with good flesh, enough acidity and just a touch of the muscatty style to finish, yet also some underlying stones as well. Drink from 2024-2026.

**2022, Bourgogne Aligoté Champ Renard, Domaine Adélie 87-88**

Pale lemon. A proper Aligoté nose with some energy behind. Very promising. A little bit of barrel delivers some weight behind, this will make an attractive wine with some keeping capacity. Flesh is present but well contained. Drink from 2024-2027.



Jasper Morris MW

## CHABLIS 2022: THE VINTAGE REPORT

Tasted: October 2023

### 2022, Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-96

Mid lemon yellow. A chiselled nose, powerful yet without perfumed. Picked on the right day. A little suggestion of passion fruit here, which adds complexity without taking us over the top. Moutonne has harnessed the ripeness very well and delivers a clear-cut intensity, as well as the ripeness of the fruit. Drink from 2030-2040.

### 2022, Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-95

Bright full lemon colour with greener notes behind. Floral though with more latent power than that suggests. There is no doubting the intensity of white fruit across the palate, lemons and apples joining the white fruit at the finish, then a more headily perfumed note at the very end, muscat and passion fruit, which suggests that it was time to pick these grapes. Drink from 2028-2035.

### 2022, Chablis Les Vaudésirs Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93-94

Glowing primrose colour. Evidently a fleshier wine, that is apparent from the nose. Very classy, a whisper of coconut from the oak, a surge of attractive fruit behind, not too much tension but certainly intensity. Good length with appley notes appearing at the very back. Drink from 2027-2034.

### 2022, Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 93

Picked 1st September, to kick off the harvest. A lemon touch to the colour but the bouquet is in pure white fruit. The fruit is clearly ripe enough, in fact perfectly judged and the pure white apple fruit extends very nicely at the back. The limestone speaks and we answer, yes please. Drink from 2025-2030.

### 2022, Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92-93

Mid lemon and lime colour. The bouquet is more reticent than the 1ers crus. This has elegance on the palate though plus a surprising sucrosity, not always typical of Blanchot. Quite intense, white fruit more than flowers, fair length. Drink from 2026-2033.

### 2022, Chablis Les Vaillons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

Pretty lemon yellow. Some stony energy to the fruit, attractively ripe on the palate, properly nuanced behind, very good length and the yellow fruit continues through, attached at the hip to the mineral qualities. Drink from 2025-2030.

### 2022, Chablis Les Beugnons 1er Cru, Domaine Long-Depaquit 92

Mid lemon yellow. A fine bouquet with fruit weight, and a real quality on the nose with some depth of fruit behind. Quite intense, not yet showing everything. Excellent fresh acidity behind, then a softer finish to the fruit. Drink from 2025-2030.

### 2022, Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit 87

Mid lemon yellow. Quiet at first but soon the Chablisian character emerges. Plenty of weight here, quite juicy. Drink from 2024-2027.







Jancis Robinson MW

REDS

**MOULIN-À-VENT Domaine de Rochegrès 2022 : 16.5**

Polished, serious. Really complete and refreshing for quite long ageing. Still quite firm tannins on the end. Drink 2024-2030.

**MERCUREY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES CHAMPS MARTIN Domaine Adélie 2022: 16**

Bright garnet. Very direct, open, raspberry fruit with some very fine tannins. Drink 2024-2029.

**SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE GRANDS PICOTINS Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 16.5**

Bright garnet. Broad and plummy. Fun and accessible. Although underneath there is structure too. Promising! Drink 2024-2029.

**POMMARD CLOS DES URSULINES Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 16.5**

Oddly for this appellation, this tastes quite evolved! Very polished and almost drinkable now. Interesting mulchy character underneath. Reverberates on the finish. Chapeau! More Côte de Beaune than typical Pommard, and Bichot admit this is almost more Volnay. Drink 2024-2030.

**CORTON GRAND CRU CLOS DES MARECHAUDES Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 17**

Deep garnet. Rich perfume. Neat and fresh and balanced. Really very charming indeed. Drink 2024-2035.

**MOREY-SAINT-DENIS 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES SORBETS 2022: 17.5**

Garnet and pale rim. Lift and perfume. Beautiful balance. Silky, appetising and so charming already! Long. It's already so gorgeous. Drink 2024-2034.

**NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CHÂTEAU-GRIS 2022: 16.5**

Deep, vibrant crimson. Powerful nose. Still quite dominated by oak but lots of very pretty fruit underneath. Sinewy, muscular. (Bichot also make an unusual white village-level Nuits, Les Terrasses, from the vineyard next door.) Drink 2027-2037

**VOSNE-ROMANÉE 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES MALCONSORTS Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022: 17**

*Just above the grands crus. Bichot is the largest owner of Malconsorts.*

Mid crimson. Not a showy nose but it suggests some hidden depths. Racy and pacy. Wait for this to bloom. Quite a bit of optimistic fine tannin on the long, throbbing finish. Good potential! Drink 2028-2040.

**LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2022: 17.5+**

Mid garnet. Rich nose with some delicacy. This dances! Very fine tannins. Still embryonic but the fruit is convincingly well balanced. Very pretty, true example of the climat. Quite delicate. Drink 2028-2040.

**CLOS-DE-VOUGEOT GRAND CRU Domaine du Clos Frantin 2022 : 17.5+**

Shaded garnet. Introvert but convincing nose. Then a great spread of complex fruit on the palate. Still very young but pure and promising even if not showy. Drink 2029-2042.





Jancis Robinson MW

WHITES

**BOURGOGNE ALIGOTÉ CHAMP RENARD Domaine Adélie 2022: 16**

Quite a powerful nose. Stewed-pears flavour and quite a bit of acid on the end. Drink 2023-2025.

**MÂCON-MILLY LAMARTINE 2022: 16**

Cooler and slimmer than many a Mâconnais wine, a characteristic of Milly-Lamartine apparently. Fresh and crisp. Mid length. Well behaved. Drink 2023-2026.

**BOURGOGNE CÔTE D'OR CHARDONNAY SECRET DE FAMILLE 2022: 16.5**

*Very important cuvée for the house as it allows them capacity to produce affordable wine for consumers. There's very little Meursault and Puligny, for example, available – as well as it being expensive. The Bourgogne Côte d'Or appellation demands lower yields and higher vine density than AOC Bourgogne. Some bought-in grapes, especially from outlying areas of famous villages.*

Strong lime notes and oak savour. Pretty well structured and long. Should age a while. Definitely no lack of freshness from the hottest vintage ever! Still a little chewiness on the end. Drink 2023-2027

**POUILLY-FUISSÉ 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CLOS REYSSIÉ 2022: 16.5**

*Commercial director Benoit Bruot comments that the new Pouilly-Fuissé premiers crus mean that Pouilly-Fuissé sells in more markets as an alternative source of premiers crus to the villages to the north. Though technical director Matthieu Mangenot noted that not all producers use the premier cru designation as they find the yield restrictions too strict. East-facing slope in Chaintré, historically superior.*

Quite rich nose and then very citrus on the palate. Restrained, not that full-bodied, but with good ageing potential. Drink 2024-2029.

**CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE GRAND CRU Domaine du Pavillon 2022: 17**

Rich and tense on the nose – good! Much nervier than most. Lots to chew on and nothing too sweet. Drink 2026-2034.

**CHABLIS GRAND CRU MOUTONNE Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022: 17**

Surprisingly ripe nose. Though deep-breathing reveals some of the stony character and fine acidity. Chalky finish. Vibrant. Drink 2024-2030.





## Chablis 2022: top-scoring wines

Chablis lovers can delight in 2022, hailed as a year to snap up. Those who got it right produced wines with both freshness and ripe fruit flavours, alongside crispness and signature salinity.



### ② TOP-QUALITY PRODUCER Albert Bichot, Domaine Long- Depaquit, Grand Cru Moutonne Monopole

96

The unofficial 'eighth grand cru climat', Moutonne is a very exciting wine in 2022. Very sophisticated, with purity, lift and precision on nose and palate, freshened with saltiness and iodine notes to finish. Concentrated with ripe fruit character and a lovely balance between power and elegance. Needs time before broaching. Tank sample, tasted blind. **Drink** 2026-2037

### Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos

95

Quite subtle and restrained on both nose and palate. Plenty of warmth of fruit, but as yet quite restrained. Lovely, salty, zesty notes promise a lot in the future. Ripe peach fruit characters develop with a few minutes in the glass. This will be a great example of Les Clos once in bottle. Tank sample.

### Domaine Long-Depaquit, Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaucopins

93

Domaine Long-Depaquit is the Chablis arm of the Bichot family. Vaucoupin is one of their signatures and in 2022 it shows a great combination of sun-ripened peach fruit on the palate, balanced by zesty acidity and a hint of white pepper. Lovely purity here. Manages to be both powerful and elegant at the same time. Already drinking nicely, this has the concentration to age very well.







## 2022 Chablis

*As I noted last year, long-time régisseur (estate manager) Matthieu Mangenot has been kicked upstairs as the saying goes to join the Bichot team in Beaune. He has been replaced by the young Louis Gimonnet, who took over the direction of the domaine as of July 2021. If the family name seems familiar to Champagne fans, it should as he is a member of the Gimonnet family. Gimonnet's take on the 2022 vintage was that the "growing season was much less complicated than that of 2021 though we did have four consecutive nights of frost that did cause some damage. What saved us is that the contre-bourgeons (base or secondary buds) developed, which wasn't the case in 2021. While the flowering passed reasonably well, the vines did suffer some shatter. Thereafter the summer was very hot and dry but in contrast to 2019 and 2020, we basically had very little sunburned fruit. Véraison was relatively homogenous, which obviously is a good thing from the standpoint of picking as one can go quickly due to the fact that the fruit is uniformly ripe. We picked from the 1st of September and the fruit could not have been cleaner, which also helped with respect to picking quickly. However, on the 4th it rained between 30 and 40 ml and it was remarkable how fast the vines took up the water and transferred it to the fruit. It was almost as though there were two different types of fruit, that picked before versus that picked afterwards and not surprisingly, they produced two different kinds of wine. That picked early had better acidities, potential alcohols and concentration while the later picked fruit was the reverse. Yields were good without being high and potential alcohols varied between 12 and 13.2%. As to the wines, they keep changing month by month and while I don't think 2022 is going to produce classic Chablis, they are utterly delicious and I suspect most of them are going to be enjoyed young for their seductive fruit."*

### **2022 Chablis Domaine Long-Depaquit: 87-89**

A ripe, fresh and bright nose features notes of various white orchard fruit, citrus and iodine. The rich, fleshy and plum middleweight flavors offer reasonably good depth and persistence on the clean, moderately dry and bitter lemon rind-inflected finish. This could be enjoyed young or aged for 4 to 7 years as desired. 2026+

### **2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90**

A more elegant and more complex nose offers up its combination of sea breeze, just sliced apple, mineral reduction and hint of zest. There is again good richness and concentration to the medium weight flavors that conclude in a sneaky long and youthfully austere finish that delivers better depth. This isn't exactly classically styled but it's attractive all the same. 2027+

### **2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Beugnons Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90**

A slightly riper nose is otherwise quite compositionally similar to the Les Lys. The sleek and nicely detailed medium-bodied flavors also conclude in a youthfully austere finale where a touch of bitter lemon slowly emerges. This could use better depth but a few years of keeping should help. 2027+

### **2022 Chablis 1er Cru Les Vaillons Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91**

Subtle but still perceptible wood is present on the aromas of prominent mineral reduction, white pepper and poached ripe pear. The super-sleek, delicious and vibrant middleweight flavors possess an unusually refined mid-palate mouthfeel that contrasts markedly with the borderline rustic if impressively long finish. This could also use more depth though again a few years of keeping should prove beneficial. 2027+

### **2022 Chablis 1er Cru Montmains Domaine Long-Depaquit: 90-93**

There is a bit more wood influence on the slightly exotic nose of white peach and lychee with a pretty floral top note and just enough Chablis typicity to be interesting. The concentrated and tautly muscular flavors possess fine mid-palate density as well as outstanding length on the balanced and moderately dry finale. This possesses fine development potential and it is noticeably more structured than the Vaillons. 2030+







## 2022 Chablis

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94***

Here too moderately generous wood is present on the ripe and layered aromas of pear confit, wet stone and the hallmark floral top notes. I very much like both the refined texture and intensity of the precise medium-bodied flavors that display focused power on the impressively long, balanced and dry finale. Fine potential here. 2030+

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Vaudésirs *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-94***

While hardly subtle, the oak regimen is a bit tamer on the pure, cool and elegant nose of ripe essence of pear, apple, spice and ocean breeze scents. The caressing yet quite intense middleweight flavors possess a lilting mouthfeel before culminating in an agreeably dry and overtly stony finale. This is excellent and as with all of the best examples of the appellation, a wine of finesse. 2030+

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Bougros *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-95***

Very generous wood openly fights with the exotic and ripe yet quite fresh nose that freely offers up a combination of white and yellow fruit aromas that are laced with hints of iodine, shellfish and mineral reduction. There is terrific, indeed almost painful, intensity to the bigger-bodied yet still refined flavors that exude an evident stoniness on the powerful and superbly long finale. This firm age-worthy effort is also excellent. 2032+

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 92-95***

Here the wood treatment is far more subtle though again, by no means invisible on the cool, pure and unmistakably Chablis-like nose of quinine, petrol, spice, iodine and citrus confit aromas. Once again there is really beguiling texture to the succulent yet solidly intense and powerful medium-bodied flavors that deliver outstanding length on the youthfully austere, balanced and Zen-like finale. This too is quite impressive. 2032+

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94***

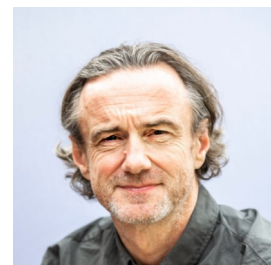
Generous wood and vanilla nuances wood frame cool and exuberantly fresh aromas of citrus, apple and ocean brine. There is borderline painful intensity to the imposing and tautly muscular larger-scaled flavors that retain a lovely sense of refinement on the powerful, balanced, bone-dry and built-to-age finale. As is usually the case with this wine, it's going to require at least a few years of patience to develop better depth and better integrate. 2032+

### **2022 Chablis Grand Cru Moutonne *Domaine Long-Depaquit: 91-94***

More moderate wood influence more easily allows the softly exotic aromas of white and yellow peach, apricot and sweet almond paste along with limited Chablis typicity. The rich and quite full-bodied flavors also possess a beautiful texture that is succulent and generously proportioned while retaining good punch and balanced on the sneaky long finish. This is very much built-to-age and it's a wine with a proven track record for successfully doing so. 2032+



## CHABLIS 2022



Neal Martin

July 2023

### Producer: Domaine Long-Depaquit

The **2022 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru** is aged 20% in barrel for nine months. It has a pretty nose of yellow fruit, combining nicely with wet stone and subtle fern-like scents. The palate is well-balanced with fine acidity, good concentration and a discrete pepperiness coming through towards its cohesive finish. This is a well-made, flavorsome Montmains. **90**

The **2022 Chablis Les Vaucopins 1er Cru** sees 15% aged in barrel and the rest in stainless steel for nine months. It has a bright nose with yellow fruit, wet stone and light beeswax aromas. The palate has an insistent grip on the entry, a pleasing, slightly waxy texture with just the faintest honeyed note on the finish. Just a quite delicious Vaucopins to enjoy over 6-10 years. **90**

The **2022 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** aged entirely in barrel for nine months, has a fine, primal, honeysuckle and beeswax-scented bouquet that opens nicely in the glass. The palate is well-balanced with a fine line of acidity, quite precise with peach skin and tangerine touches, an underlying spiciness coming forth with aeration. This should meld together nicely with time in bottle. **91-93**

The **2022 Chablis Les Blanchots Grand Cru**, sees 25% aged in barrel and the remainder in stainless steel for nine months, plus five months where the entire blend is aged in stainless steel. The nose has a surprising steeliness that other Grand Crus find difficult to manifest: focused and mineral-driven. Not austere, but reserved. The palate is well-balanced with a fine bead of acidity, citrus-fresh with touches of pear and nectarine. Again, quite reserved and holding back on the finish. This represents a competent combination of classicism and the vintage's exotic tendency. **91-93**

The **2022 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** aged entirely in barrel for nine months, feels a bit muted on the nose with grapefruit, lime and touches of crushed stone. You just want more presence and vitality. The palate is more promising, with some lovely peach and mango notes and a taut line of acidity, finishing with a degree of tension. There is more to give here; I would tuck bottles away for 3-4 years. It's biding its time. **90-92**

The **2022 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** is two-thirds aged in stainless steel and the remainder in wooden barrel for nine months, plus five months, whereby the entire blend is raised in vat. The nose has good intensity: green apple and light kiwi fruit, leesy at the moment but well defined. The palate is taut on the entry with fine depth, well-judged acidity, and smooth in texture with hints of Conference pear mixed with a quite spicy peppery notes towards the finish. Good potential. **90-92**

The **2022 Chablis Moutonne Grand Cru**, the 2.25ha monopole of Long-Depaquit, is matured 75% in stainless steel and the remainder in barrel for nine months, plus five months in stainless steel. It has an attractive bouquet with more mineralité and Chablis DNA than the Les Preuses, with touches of oyster shell coming through with time. The palate is well-balanced with a crisp line of acidity, red apple, pear and grapefruit, finishing with a dash of spice. Primal in style, so cellar this for 3-4 years. There's good potential. **91-93**



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**CHABLIS 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES VAUCOPINS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022****Score: 93 Points**

Restrained and tight, showing notes of stones, chalk and white apricots. It's medium-bodied and light-footed with a chalky texture. Long and persistent mineral notes. Try from 2024.

**CHABLIS 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES VAILLONS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022****Score: 92 Points**

I like the minerality here with notes of sea shells, green apples, touch of white pepper and pears. It's medium-bodied with a creamy, sleek and fresh palate. Lovely refreshing, stony finish. Drink or hold.

**CHABLIS Domaine Long-Depaquit 2022****Score: 89 Points**

Nice clarity of fruit here with aromas of sliced pears, apples and peaches. Wet stones follow on the palate. It's clean and medium-bodied, with a more simple finish. Drink now.

**MERCUREY LES CHAMPS-MICHAUX Domaine Adélie 2022****Score: 92 Points**

Apricot stones, yellow nectarines, toasted hazelnuts and mangoes here. Some salted yellow plums. Full-bodied and flavorful, with tasty fleshy yellow fruit and an energetic finish. From organically grown grapes. Drink now.

**POUILLY-FUISSÉ 2022****Score: 90 Points**

This has aromas of baked apples, cream, hazelnuts and lemon curd. Creamy and supple, with a full body, and nice freshness too. So drinkable. Drink now.

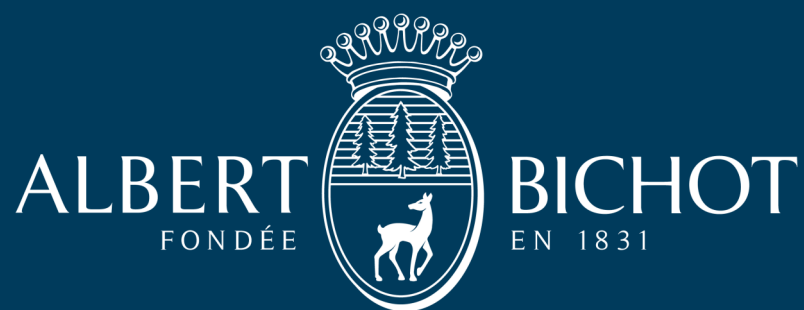
**SAINT-VÉРАН 2022****Score: 90 Points**

A creamy Saint-Veran with peaches, pears, apples and pie crust on the nose, alongside a sprinkling of salted almonds. Full-bodied and satisfying. Drink now.

**MÂCON-LUGNY LES CHARMES 2022****Score: 89 Points**

Ripe stone fruit here with nectarines, golden apples, pears and mango stones. It's full-bodied and with some wet stone freshness to close. From the plateau of Macon-Lugny. Drink now .





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