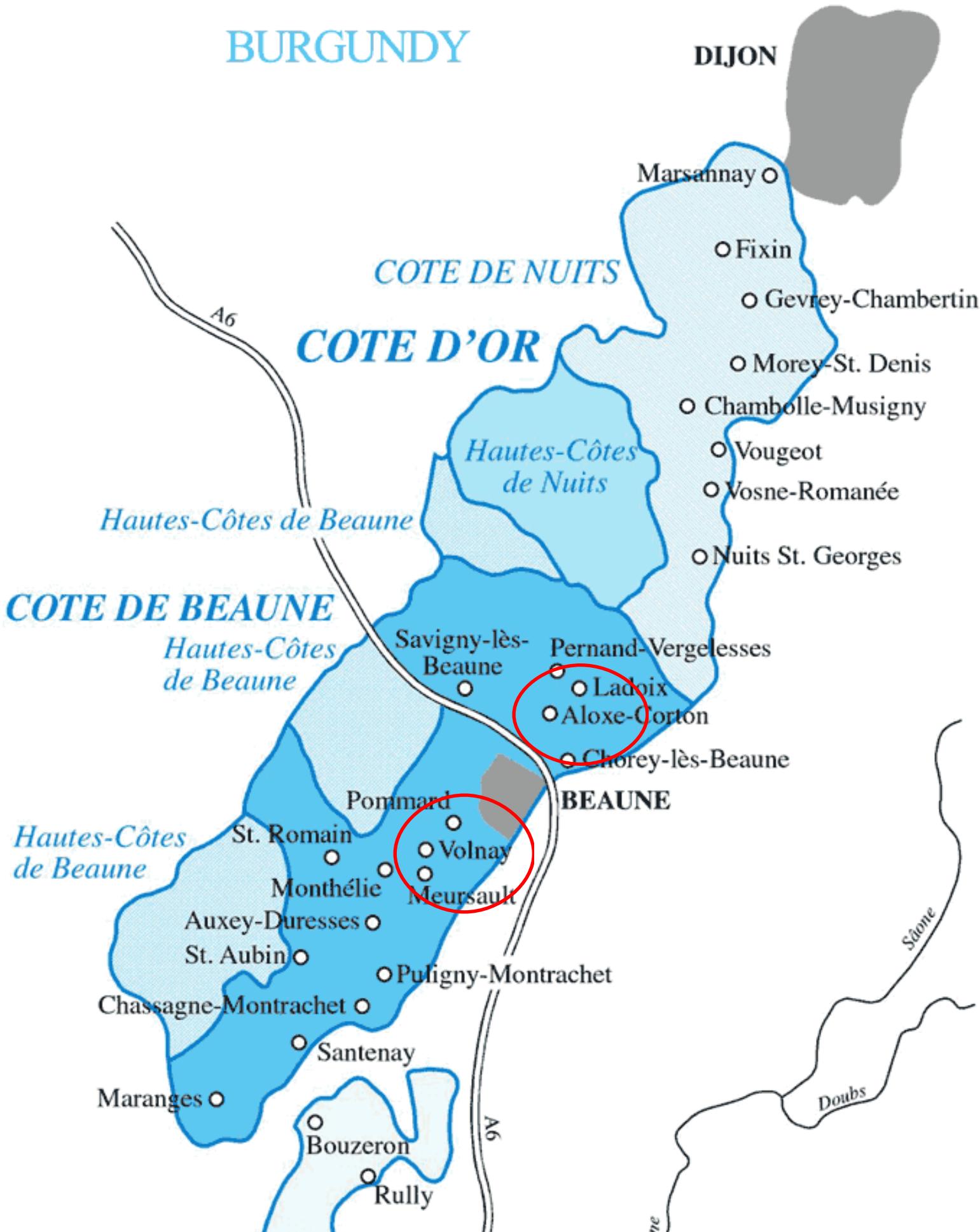


BURGUNDY



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Wine Knowledge

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BURGUNDY WINE CLASSIFICATIONS

The classification structures in Burgundy differ fundamentally from those in Bordeaux. There are 4 different classifications:

Regional/District - 22 regional and district appellations which represent over 60% of total production. Examples of regional appellations: [Bourgogne Blanc](#), [Hautes Côtes de Nuits](#). District appellations never have Bourgogne in their names (e.g. Mâcon).

Commune - There are 53 communal appellations which represent over 20% of total production. Examples include [Volnay](#), [Pommard](#), [Rully](#).

Single Vineyard Communes: Two classes of vineyards:

- **Premier Cru:** 561 vineyards with Premier Cru status, representing 11% of Burgundy's total production.
- **Grand Cru:** 32 Grand Cru vineyards, representing less than 2% of total production.

IMPORTANT BURGUNDY VILLAGES

Gevrey Chambertin

Grand Crus:

Le Chambertin

[Chambertin Clos de Bèze](#)

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[Ruchottes-Chambertin](#)

[Griotte-Chambertin](#)

[Chapelle-Chambertin](#)

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Premiers Crus: [Combe au Moine](#), [les Cazetiers](#), [Estournelles St Jacques](#), [Clos St Jacques](#), [Aux Combottes](#).

Morey St. Denis

Grand Crus:

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Premier Crus:

Les Ruchots, La Bussière, La Faconnières

Chambolle Musigny

Grand Crus:

[Musigny](#)

[Bonnes Mares](#)

Premiers Crus:

[Les Amoureuses](#), [Les Beaux-Brun](#)s Les Cras, [Les Fuées](#), [Les Véroilles](#)

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Vougeot

Grand Cru:

[Clos du Vougeot](#)

Vosne Romanée

Grand Crus:

[Romanée-Conti](#)

[La Tâche](#)

[Richebourg](#)

[Romanée Saint-Vivant](#)

[La Romanée](#)

La Grande Rue

Premiers Crus:

Aux Raignots, [Les Chaumes](#), [Les Suchots](#), [Aux Brûlées](#), [Les Beaux Monts](#),
Combe Brûlée

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Flagey-Echézeaux (sold under name of Vosne Romanée)

Grands Crus:

[Echézeaux](#)

[Grands-Echézeaux](#)

Nuits St Georges

Premier Crus: Les Cailles, [Les Vaucrains](#), [Les St Georges](#), Aux Murgers, [Aux Boudots](#)

Savigny-les-Beaune

Premier Crus: [Les Lavières](#), [Aux Vergelesses](#), [Les Narbantons](#), Les Grands Liards, Les Perrières, Les Fourneux

Beaune

Premiers Crus: [Clos des Mouches](#), [Les Greves](#), [Les Perrières](#), Clos du Roi, Les Cras, [Les Bressandes](#)

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Pommard

Premiers Crus: Les Grands Epenots, Les Jarollières, [Fremiers](#), Les Charmots, Les Combes, [Les Pézerolles](#)

Volnay

Premier Crus: [Champans](#), [Les Caillerets](#), [Les Angles](#), Clos des Chênes, [Clos de la Pousse d'Or](#), [Les Pluchots](#), [La Gigotte](#)

Meursault

Premiers Crus: Les Poruzots, [Les Perrières](#), [Les Gouttes d'Or](#), [Les Genevières](#), [Les Charmes](#), La Piece sous le Bois, Le Dos d'Ane

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Puligny Montrachet/Chassagne Montrachet

Grand Crus:

[Chevalier-Montrachet](#)

[Bienvenues-Bâtard Montrachet](#)

[Le Montrachet](#)

[Bâtard-Montrachet](#)

[Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet](#)

Puligny Montrachet

Premier Crus: [Les Caillerets](#), [Les Pucelles](#), [Le Clavoillon](#), [Les Referts](#), [Les Combettes](#), [Les Champ Canet](#), [Les Perrières](#), [Le Champ Gain](#), La Truffière

Chassagne Montrachet

Premier Crus: Les Chevennottes, [Le Champs Gains](#), Les Grands Clos, [Les Vergers](#), [Les Caillerets](#), [Les Morgeots](#), Clos St. Jean

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Domaine de Valmoissine



Appellation : Vin de Pays des Côteaux du Verdon
Region : [Côteaux du Verdon](#)
Village : [Verdon](#)
Grape varieties [Pinot Noir](#)
:
Soil : Argilo-calcareous

Millésimes

1997	
1998	
1999	
2000	
2001	

Vinification : Traditional Burgundy techniques with oak-ageing

Description :

The Domaine de Valmoissine is located on the site of the ancient monastery and university of Valmoissine at 500 metres above sea-level which guarantees sunshine during the summer months whilst remaining cool and limits the possibility of spring frosts. The grapes are entirely hand-picked before being fermented in stainless steel open-vats for a short period of 3-4 days. Pigeage will take place 2-3 times a day to extract colour and tannins. The wine is then matured in old oak casks from Maison Louis Latour's cooperage in Beaune in which the wines flavours and aromas develop naturally, and harmonise with the mellow wood flavours of the oak. The style of this wine resembles Burgundy's classical Vin Vermeil that the first Louis Latour was producing at the end of the 18th century. Elegance and finesse packed with fruit, and a vivid vermeil or bright red colour. Bottled after 8 months of maturation, it can be drunk with pleasure only a year after having been made. The resurrection of this style of wine already has a dedicated following.

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WINE

Unraveling burgundy

**Louis Latour defines
consistent quality of
complex wine**

By MICHAEL LONSFORD
Copyright 2001 Houston Chronicle

HERE'S an analogy we all can relate to: Bordeaux is to network TV as burgundy is to cable TV.

Bordeaux is pretty straightforward; plug it in and you know what to expect.

Burgundy, though, even with much smaller production, is far more complex, and that's why it's so difficult to program your palate.

While many famous (and some less well-known) Bordeaux estates make upward of 25,000 cases a year, many Burgundy producers talk of their production in terms of single-barrel lots. Château Lafite-Rothschild, the famous First Growth Bordeaux, is 250 acres. In Burgundy, the equally famous Domaine de la Romanee-Conti is 4.45 acres. Many Burgundy estate parcels are counted in mere 10ths of acres.

Because of several factors -- e.g.,

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hardier grape varieties, less temperamental weather -- Bordeaux wines tend to be more consistent and easier for consumers to understand. Thus, it's simple: Château Lafite makes one wine (not counting a second label), while some Burgundy producers make 30 or 40 different wines from different appellations. Sometimes these are estate wines -- because so many Burgundy wine estates are broken into many parcels. Sometimes it's because a Burgundy firm operates as a *négociant* that buys grapes from small growers of actual new wine, and then makes or blends the wine under its own label.

Thus guarantee of quality is iffy in Burgundy. Just because a burgundy is labeled *premier cru* or, even better, *grand cru*, does not guarantee the wines will be terrific. You have to know the producer.

For instance, the most exalted white burgundy vineyard, Le Montrachet, has more than a dozen firms making wines from its few acres. Some of those wines are the finest expressions of chardonnay you'll ever find -- and the most expensive. But others are of far lesser quality due to the situation of the parcel in the vineyard, or the vinification techniques. Le Montrachet is a great testimony to the validity of the phrase *caveat emptor*.

So inconsistency in quality is the main reason Burgundy is so difficult to get a handle on. But sometimes a large producer, despite its awkward size, manages to put out consistently good products. One large Burgundy house that does an excellent job of maintaining high quality is Louis Latour.

Though the firm celebrated its 200th



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anniversary just four years ago, it actually dates to 1731, when the family was growing grapes in the Côte de Beaune. By 1768, the family had settled in the famous wine village of Aloxe-Corton and began acquiring vineyards. The first Louis Latour formed the company more or less as it is today in 1797.

Over the years it acquired more properties, including the famous Château Grancey (now Corton-Grancey). And over the years, the firm of Louis Latour (now in its seventh generation with Louis Fabrice Latour, born in 1962), had a number of Burgundy "firsts" to its credit:

In the late 19th century, Louis Latour was one of the first Burgundy firms to realize that disease-resistant American rootstock was the way to conquer phylloxera, the vine-root-eating plant louse that devastated European vineyards in the mid-to late 1800s. Then in 1936, Louis Latour was the first firm to ship a white burgundy called pouilly-fuisse to the United States.

Later, in 1970, Louis Latour began to market in the United States a wine called Macon-Lugny, an entry-level white burgundy. Louis Latour now produces almost 50 percent of this chardonnay wine from the Maconnais area.

And of course, Louis Latour was a major chardonnay producer, beginning in the 1980s, from the non-Burgundy region of the Ardeche.

The Louis Latour firm is more noted for its white burgundies. The reds can be excellent, but they have created some controversy because they're

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"flash-pasteurized." Thus the house style, especially of the reds, may be on the light side (exception: Corton-Grancey). Still, with Louis Latour, you almost always get your money's worth.

And there aren't many Burgundy firms, large or small, about which you can say that.

Here's a taste of some Louis Latour burgundies from the 1999 vintage. The whites are here; the reds will be here in a few weeks, brought in through Glazer's Domaines and Estates division. Prices below range from \$12 to \$70.

How we rate the wines:

* * * * = Outstanding

* * * = Fine

* * = Good

* * = Fair

* = Poor

(*) = indicates ageability

1999 Louis Latour white burgundies:

1999 Louis Latour Chablis -- * * * 1/2 -- it has the right angular, acidic quality, although it could use a little more mineral-and-flint nuances.

1999 Puligny-Montrachet -- * * * 1/2 (1/2) -- solid effort, both oily yet austere, and really needs a little time in the bottle to flesh out the imbalance.

1999 Chassagne-Montrachet -- * * * * -- typically rounder and fuller, with pleasant weight and mouth-feel.

1999 Corton-Charlemagne -- * * * (* 1/2) -- Latour's flagship white wine. There may be a few better Corton-Charlemagnes out there, but not for the price or availability. This young

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white Burgundy, with its oak-vanilla, almond and lemony nuances, isn't even a teen-ager yet; it needs room and time to grow and expand -- and become voluptuous with maturity. Latour is probably the largest producer of Corton-Charlemagne, making up to 6,000 cases from its 22.23-acre part of the famed vineyard. Some people say white burgundies don't age; this wine proves them wrong.

1999 Louis Latour red burgundies:

1999 Domaine de Valmoissine (pinot noir) -- * * * 1/2 (1/2) -- out of sync now, with the acidity riding high, the fruit riding low. If you can wait a few months, this could become (like previous vintages) one of the best-value pinot noirs from anywhere.

1999 Savigny les Beaune -- * * * -- solid strawberry-cranberry fruit, good acidity and structure, some complexity and -- for the nonce -- tannins. Just needs a little time ...

1999 Marsannay -- * * * (1/2) -- though often called a "baby Chambertin," this wine isn't; it's just too light, and certainly isn't one for the long haul.

1999 Nuits-St.-Georges -- * * * (* 1/2) -- very nice red burgundy, not heavy, but showing great promise and balance.

1999 Gevrey-Chambertin -- * * * (* 1/2) -- a very pretty wine, and that's not the usual adjective for a Gevrey-Chambertin. Attractive fruit and structure, and with a little bottle age ...

1999 Château Corton-Grancey -- * * (* *) -- Latour's flagship red wine, but one that affects consumers differently. Some appreciate its weight and power;

Verdon de Pinot Noir, Domaine de Valmoissine. Southern Right's Sauvignon Blanc has lovely aromatic fruit but in a restrained Loire style with good complexity on the palate and is reduced from £9.99 to £7.99.

The Louis Latour Pinot Noir, Dom. de Valmoissine has been described thus "This stunning red wine is easily the greatest vin de pays pinot noir ever produced - it could be the greatest vin de pays ever produced from any grape variety. It is the most exciting vin de pays I have ever tasted, it is so soft and silky with such a purity of fruit and so much finesse that few Burgundians would believe this is not a burgundy, and a fine one at that." Tom Stephenson, The New Sothebys Wine Encyclopedia.

This wine has been reduced to £10.40 from £12.49 and is one of Louis Latour's most interesting wines. To avail of this offer click here: <http://www.irelandonwine.com>.

For tasting notes on these wines click here:
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In addition anyone that signs up to the IrelandOnWine newsletter will be in with a chance to win a case of Sancerre Comte Lafond.

IrelandOnWine.com stock many of the wines you will find on TheWineRoom.ie so even if you are not interested in any of these wines, their site is still worth checking out...
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The WineRoom.ie (in conjunction with Gilbeys of Ireland) are continuing with last issue's special offer vouchers for downloading. By clicking on the link below you can get £1 off the following bottles... **Correas Torrontes/Chardonnay**, **Correas Syrah/Sangiovese** and **Faustino 1**. We are also continuing the offers on **Jamiesons Run Chardonnay** and **Jamiesons Run Coonawarra Red** so get downloading... To print your vouchers simply follow this link:
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Chateau Des Jacques
Moulin-à-Vent
Louis Jadot



GRAPE	100%
VARIETY:	Gamay
	Noir à Jus
	Blanc
MAXIMUM	48 hl/ha
YIELD:	(215 cases/acre)
MINIMUM	10.5%
ALCOHOL:	(13.5% maximum)
MINIMUM	170 Grams
SUGAR:	
SOIL:	Crystalline granite
	High manganese
EXPOSURE:	South and Southeast

Moulin-à-Vent's distinctive, elegant style and ability to age well engender frequent comparisons to great Burgundies.

First among the crus of Beaujolais, Moulin-à-Vent is named for a windmill situated on the summit of a low granite hill overlooking the historic town of Les Thorins. Moulin-à-Vent spans 1,730 acres, planted almost entirely to Gamay. A vein of manganese runs through the unique, crystalline granite soils of the cru, imparting a particularly intense bouquet and flavor to the wines. More than any other cru of Beaujolais, Moulin-à-Vent's distinctive, elegant style and ability to age well engender frequent comparisons to great Burgundies.

In November 1996, Maison Louis Jadot acquired the renowned cellars and vineyards of Château des Jacques, a beautiful 67-acre estate in Moulin-à-Vent. Most of the estate is planted with Gamay, in five parcels, or 'clos', with south and southeastern exposure, the notable exception being Grand Clos de Loyse, a separate 22-acre domaine planted to Chardonnay. Many leading critics have noted that these wines truly express the character of each clos. Robert Parker has said that the greatest Moulin-à-Vent he ever tasted came from Château des Jacques.

An impeccable state of the art fermentation room is housed directly beneath the château. Château des Jacques practices a traditional vinification, characterized by a

delicate crush to split the grapes, de-stemming of 60% to 80% of the harvest, and a 10 to 12 day fermentation in partially sealed vats. The goal is to achieve the fullest expression of the fruit and terroir in the finished wine. A large part of the harvest is aged in oak barrels, made of the finest wood. The wine is estate-bottled and rests for a minimum of ten months in the historic cellars, located beneath the château grounds and park. Combining great harmony, fullness and structure with the rich flavors of the cru, Château des Jacques will improve for six to ten years in bottle, far longer than most Beaujolais.



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Wine of the Week

Moulin Rouge Est Arrive!

[Nick Passmore](#)

Beaujolais has become the victim of its own success.

Or at least its commercial success. The "Beaujolais Nouveau Est Arrive!" marketing campaign has come to so dominate people's perception of the region that they tend to dismiss all its wines out of hand. This is a pity, as recently there have been more and more good wines being made there, and because of the region's less than stellar image, they represent particularly good value.

This week and next I'll be taking a look at two wines from this much maligned area that are worthy of your attention, even if you long ago turned your back on Beaujolais.

The first is **Champ de Cour, Moulin-À-Vent 1997, Louis Jadot**. You notice the word "Beaujolais" appears nowhere in the name. Savvy drinkers have long known that products from the ten communes in the north of the region, especially Moulin-À-Vent and Morgon, are serious wines capable of long aging. These wines are very different from run-of-the-mill Beaujolais, and in acknowledgement of their superiority, they are permitted to be bottled under the name of the commune rather than as simple Beaujolais. This is not new. What is new is what Jadot is doing with its Moulin-À-Vent.

A respected *négociant* in Burgundy, just to the north, Jadot recently made a major commitment to Beaujolais by buying in 1996 the magnificent Chateau des Jacques and several fine vineyards in the region, one of them being Champ de Cour.

In the past, wine from a vineyard such as this would



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have gone into a generic Moulin-À-Vent blend, but Jadot, like a handful of other innovative producers, decided to vinify and bottle the product of its best vineyards separately. In addition, it has modified some of the winemaking techniques that have come to dominate Beaujolais since the rise of Nouveau, and the result is spectacular.

This is a big, rich, creamy wine--the use of oak is obvious, itself unusual in Beaujolais--but there's a nice spicy bite to keep it fresh, and good tannic structure too.

It has a deep, dark ruby color with a rich, opulent nose. There's nothing wimpy about this wine; it's robust and beefy, and unlike most Beaujolais, it's capable of standing up to the heartiest of winter foods and the strongest cheeses. In fact, it's the very antithesis of the light, fruity stuff most people associate with Beaujolais.

So, if you are one of those many wine drinkers who once ordered Beaujolais--perhaps a bottle of Nouveau as a student to show how sophisticated you were--before graduating to more refined tastes, you owe it to yourself to give it another look. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Forbes Fact

Louis Jadot is one of the oldest, and most prestigious, *négociants* in Burgundy. Founded in 1859, Jadot first began working with Kobrand, a privately held American importer, in 1945 and quickly became one of the most well-known Burgundy brands in the U.S. Kobrand, which continues to market Beefeater gin, Tattinger champagne, Delamain cognac and Cakebread Cellars wine, purchased Jadot in 1985.



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Region:	Beaujolais
Country:	France
Price:	\$19
Availability:	Good
Web Site:	http://www.kobrandwine.com

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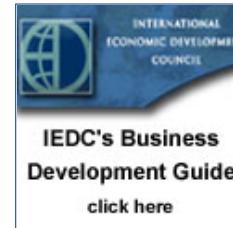
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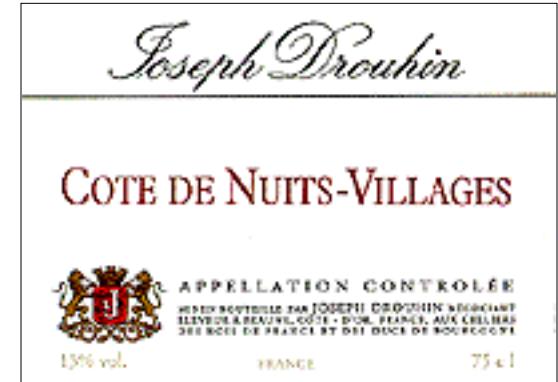
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COTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES

This appellation is common to a number of villages, all situated in the Côte de Nuits region : Brochon, Fixin, Premeaux-Prissey, Corgoloin, Comblanchien. It is an interesting wine combining the different characteristics of the various "terroirs" : fairly soft and rich wines in the South to more tannic wines with a strong structure in the North. Pinot Noir is the only grape variety used for this appellation.

At Joseph Drouhin's, the winemaking techniques remain traditional : hand-picked grapes, fermentation in open wooden vats, punching down the cap and pumping over the juice. The wine ages in barrels for almost two years and is fined with egg whites prior to bottling.

Côte de Nuits-Villages is a delicious red Burgundy wine, and a great value. It has a beautiful, luminous ruby colour. On the nose, flavours of wild cherry, liquorice and other spices can be detected. Firm, fruity and well balanced, it can age for at least 5 to 6 years.



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DOMAINE DROUHIN OREGON 1999

CLIMATE & HARVEST: A very dry summer resulted in extremely ripe and dark-colored grapes. We were then blessed with a lovely weather during harvest.

WINEMAKING: As usual, the grapes were hand picked into small boxes of 25 pounds (it is hard work for the pickers but important for quality!). After quietly resting for a few days in the fermenters, the alcoholic fermentation started and was conducted in the classical Burgundian method of punching down the cap, pumping over the juice and tasting the wine two to three times each day in order to make the right decisions.

The wine was aged in barrels sent from Joseph Drouhin's inventory.

New oak content was about 18%.

Malolactic fermentation was completed naturally in barrels without inoculation.

This year it took some time for the wines to go through the malolactic fermentation. Once it was completed, the barrels were racked off in traditional fashion (by gravity). A selection was made of the *cuvées* to eliminate those lots that did not meet a desired level of quality.

ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING :

<u>Alcohol</u>	<u>T.A.</u>	<u>pH</u>
13.7	6.04	3.53

TASTING NOTES :

Rather intense red hue. The DDO 99 offers black berry, cherry and fresh herb aromas. Also notes of coffee and spices. A rather soft attack then a medium bodied middle palate. Soft on the finish it has an excellent length. I would not confuse this wine with a Pinot Noir from Burgundy (in some vintages it is not always so obvious) but at the same time it reminds me of the lovely, elegant style of a famous estate in the Côte de Nuits. I'll let you guess which one!

Véronique Drouhin
September 2001

April 30, 2001

Bouchard Père & Fils: Rising to the Top

Joseph Henriot, who is bringing Bouchard Père & Fils back into the top echelon of Burgundy producers, was lucky and smart in '99.

Bouchard boasts the largest vineyard holdings in the Côte d'Or, with a total of 321 acres. Of that, 177 acres of *premiers crus* and 30 acres of *grands crus* were harvested before rain fell in September.

Among the Bouchard wines that I reviewed, quality was impressive throughout most of the appellations; virtually all the wines scored from 85 to 95 points and up (in the very good, outstanding or classic range) on Wine Spectator's 100-point scale. What's more, Bouchard wasn't just successful in the Côte de Beaune; the firm made some terrific Pinots from the Côte de Nuits, demonstrating the potential quality there in vineyards that were harvested before the rain.

Bouchard is working on a new wine, what Henriot describes as a "designer Bourgogne Rouge." This medium-bodied Bourgogne Rouge Réserve (80-84) offered clean and fresh black fruit.

Bouchard made two fairly straightforward village wines, Chassagne-Montrachet (80-84) and Santenay (80-84). The communal Monthélie (85-89), from Bouchard's own vines, displayed smoky and black fruit character. The full-bodied Monthélie Les Champs Fulliot (85-89) was wonderful, ripe, thick and sweet.

One of the house's best-known wines, Beaune Grèves Vigne de l'Enfant Jésus (90-94), was full-bodied and tasted complex, with smoke, spice and black fruit. I gave a very good rating (85-89) to the Volnay Caillerets Ancienne Cuvée Carnot, Volnay Clos des Chênes, a village Pommard and a Pommard Pézerolles. All showed balance and good ripe fruit. I was impressed by the complexity of three other wines and rated them outstanding (90-94): Pommard Les Chanlins, Pommard Les Rugiens and Corton.

If anything, quality was even higher in the Côte de Nuits. The wines ranged from a village Chambolle-Musigny (85-89) to a series of outstanding *premiers crus* Pinots Noirs (90-94): Nuits-St.-Georges Les Cailles, Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers and Vosne-Romanée Aux Raignots.

The Echézeaux (90-94) was pleasant and ripe, with a plummy character. Bouchard made a super Clos Vougeot (90-94) that was thick-textured, muscular and black in color. The Bonnes Mares (90-94) was full-bodied and complex, and La Romanée (90-94) was powerful and tannic. Only the Chambertin (95-100) was made with whole berries (there was no destemming; for the other wines, the clusters of grape berries were removed from the stems); it offered a slight herbal, blackberry-bush aroma but also great depth and an explosion of fruit. Picked after the rains, the Chambertin-Clos de Bèze (85-89) was quite forward but still attractive.

—P.M.



Joseph Henriot (front), owner of Bouchard Père & Fils, and Philippe Prost, Bouchard's winemaker, seem to have a winning vintage on their hands. Their 1999s from the Côte de Beaune and the Côte de Nuits are already showing well.

Traduction partielle de l'article

Bouchard Père & Fils au sommet

Joseph Henriot qui est en train de faire remonter Bouchard Père & Fils dans le peloton de tête des meilleurs producteurs bourguignons a été à la fois chanceux et habile avec le millésime 1999(...). Tous les vins que j'ai goûtes étaient d'une excellente qualité. Je les ai presque tous notés entre 85 et 95/100.

Que dire de plus : Bouchard Père & Fils n'a pas réussi uniquement ses vins de la Côte de Beaune. En Côte de Nuits, le domaine a également produit de superbes pinots noirs, démontrant ainsi le potentiel qualitatif de ces vignobles, qui ont été vendangés avant les pluies.

95/100 (exceptionnel)

CHAMBERTIN

90/94 (remarquable)

CLOS VOUGEOT

BONNES MARES

LA ROMANÉE

ÉCHEZEAUX

LE CORTON

VOSNE ROMANÉE AUX REIGNOTS

GEVREY CHAMBERTIN LES CAZETIERS

NUITS SAINT GEORGES LES CAILLES

BEAUNE GRÈVES VIGNE DE L'ENFANT JÉSU

POMMARD CHANLINS

POMMARD RUGIENS

85-89/100 (très bon)

CHAMBERTIN CLOS DE BÈZE

CHAMBOULLE MUSIGNY

Volnay Caillerets Ancienne Cuvée Carnot

Volnay Clos des Chênes

Pommard Pézerolles

POMMARD

MONTHELIE CLOS LES CHAMPS FULLIOT

MONTHELIE