NOBLE ROT
FINE WINE LTD

BURGUNDY 2019

THE NOBLE ROT OFFER

Image: The town of Pernand Vergelesses in the Côte de Beaune

What the critics say

Major critical reviews of the 2019 vintage are still to be released, but snippets from the pre-eminent critical voices make for exciting reading. We will update this page as critical opinion comes in.

"[The] observation that "2018 is rich and 2019 is concentrated" concisely sums up those growing seasons and highlights their subtle yet tangible distinction. The richness in the former engendered honeyed textures, exotic fruit profiles and low acidities and tended to erase terroir expression. ***The following year, well, if we subscribe to the idea that vines are sentient beings, the clever things learned from the previous vintage. In 2019 they managed to harness and redirect that accumulated sugar to create wines that generally convey greater sense of place.*** *I understand that makes me sound like a crackpot. Vines are just plants. They don't think and learn. However, it is not the first time that I have heard winemakers claim that vines react and adapt to novel climate situations, and I, for one, believe that they learn empirically simply in order to survive."* Neal Martin, Vinous

"Heat was the killer in 2019 and ***the absolute miracle was how many completely delicious 2019s have been made****, whilst there were lots of delicious wines from cooler appellations within Burgundy,"* Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com

The view of the famous hill of Corton

The Bourgogne Wine Board (BIVB) recently described the 2019 vintage as one which created grapes of quality that are "exceptional... worthy of a year with a nine". Some of the regions greatest vintages have been those which end in a nine and 2019 combines the power and aromatics of a warmer year like 2005 & 2016, with the freshness and acidity of a 2017 or 2014. It is in short the best of both worlds, power and precision, maturity and freshness: Burgundy is back, and back with a bang.

When talking to winemakers in the region, the most common descriptive terms we've heard have been 'generous', 'aromatic' and 'freshness', and a lot of that can be put down to the unique vintage conditions. The start of the growing process saw scattered frosts & bad weather during flowering, leading to smaller bunches of smaller berries. Mother Nature's intervention led to more concentrated fruit, but it was the warmer weather in 2019 which played a pivotal role in the profile of the vintage. As water evaporated from berries in the heat, a concentration occurred, of acidity, sugar and of flavour.

Thus, we saw much smaller yields in 2019 and of the fruit to make it to sorting, most was formed of small vinous gems of perfect phenolic ripeness, acidity and, in the case of the reds, tannin. Having been fortunate to attend several socially-distanced tastings it is clear to us that this is perhaps the best vintage from the region across the past four or five years, with whites of unerring acid & mineral precision and aromatic complexity, and with reds of supple, cashmere-soft tannins and unctuous fruit.

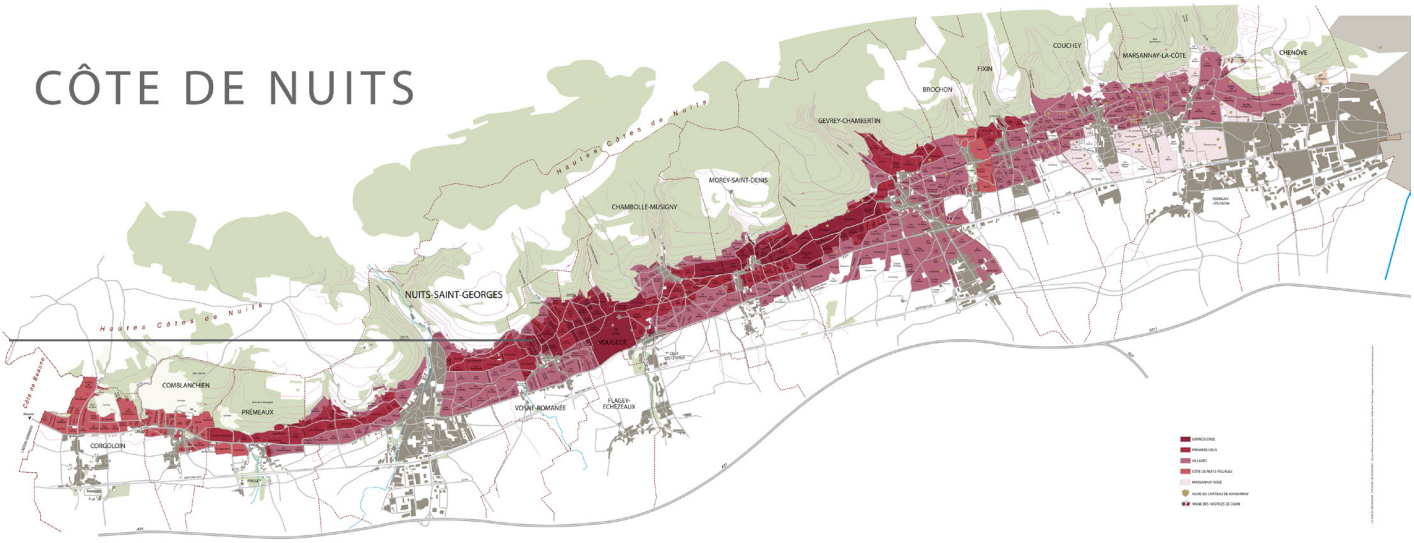
It seems that each year the Burgundians proclaim that 'this' is the best vintage in years, but in the case of the 2019s we cannot argue with that prognosis, particularly following on from our tasting experience of homogenous high quality, from the Mâconnais all the way up to the Grand Crus of the Côte de Nuits. Enticingly, prices have remained stable, in spite of the lower yields and quality of the vintage.

We are delighted in this initial offer to have worked closely once more with Louis Jadot, who have outdone themselves this year with utterly outstanding wines (even if they are in tiny, sought-after quantities), and we have also collaborated with a range of smaller producers who offer exceptional value across the region. In the new year we will offer wines from Maurice Drouhin, Albert Bichot, A F Gros and so on, as usual, but it is important we offer these 'early risers' to you, in a superb vintage which has seen yields cut in half, as quickly as possible before they disappear, as they most certainly will!

The Noble Rot Offer

*All wines are sold **in bond** in either cases of 6x75cl or 12x75cl, depending on the producer*

CÔTE DE NUITS



MAISON LOUIS JADOT

	6x75cl
Chablis Blanchot Grand Cru	£290
Pernand Vergelesses 'Clos de la Croix de Pierre', Domaine Ferret	£130
Meursault 1er Cru 'Charmes', Domaine Louis Jadot	£335
Puligny Montrachet 1er Cru 'Les Referts', Domaine Louis Jadot	£325
Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Morgeot 'Clos des la Chapelle', Monopole	£325
Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Louis Jadot	£870

	3x75cl
Bâtard Montrachet Grand Cru	£885

	6x75cl
Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Morgeot 'Clos des la Chapelle'	£180
Volnay 1er Cru 'Clos de la Barre', Monopole	£270
Pommard 1er Cru 'Grands Epenots'	£320
Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru 'Les Boudots', Domaine Gagey	£370
Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru 'Les Baudes'. Domaine Gagey	£405
Gevrey Chambertin 1er Cru 'Lavaux Saint-Jacques'	£395
Clos Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot	£570
Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine Gagey	£1,030
Clos de la Roche Grand Cru	£990
Chapelle Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot	£990

DOMAINE BERTRAND AMBROISE

	12x75cl
Nuits Saint Georges Vielles Vignes	£420
Vosne Romanée 'Aux Damaudes'	£520
Corton 'Le Rognet'	£680

DOMAINE JEAN-JACQUES GIRARD

	12x75cl
Pernand Vergelesses 1er Cru 'Vergelesses'	£290
Savigny-Lès-Beaune 1er Cru 'Les Serpentières'	£290
Volnay Vielles Vignes	£340
Pommard Vielle Vignes	£390

DOMAINE GÉRARD THOMAS ET FILLES

	12x75cl
Saint Aubin 1er Cru Sous Roche Dumay	£280
Puligny Montrachet 'Le Trézin'	£390

DOMAINE ROY

	12x75cl
Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Preuses'	£450

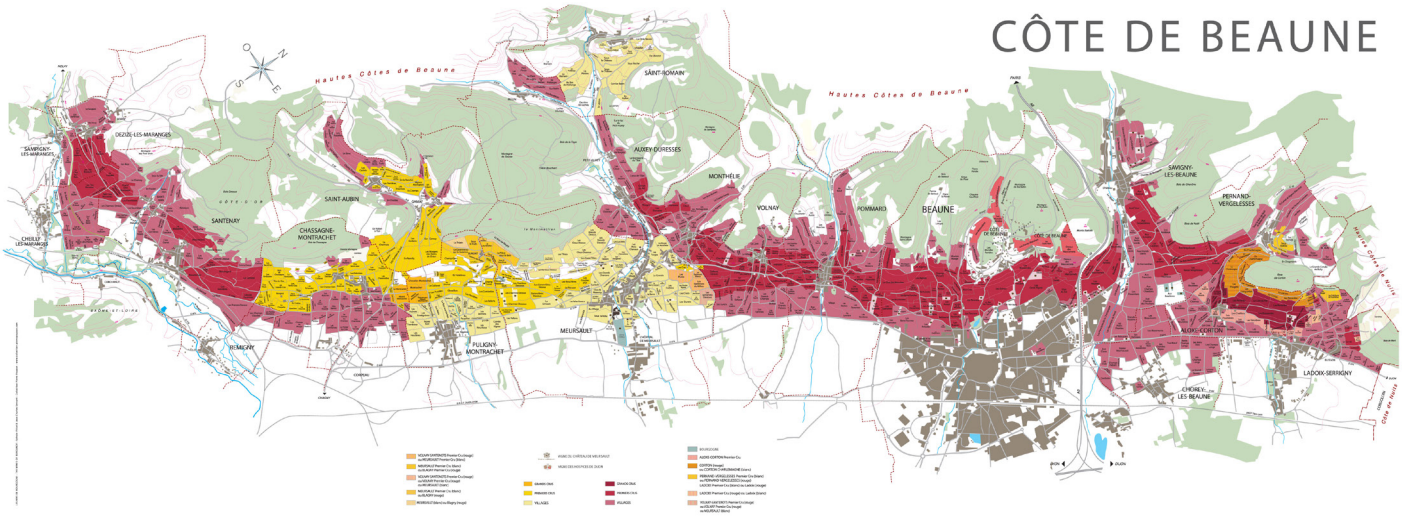
DOMAINE SAMUEL BILLAUD

	12x75cl
Petit Chablis	£150
Chablis	£180
Chablis 1er Cru 'Séchet' Vielles Vignes	£340

DOMAINE SYLVAIN BZIKOT

	12x75cl
Bourgogne Chardonnay	£180
Meursault	£420

The hills of Chablis, in what has been a superlative year for the appellation



MAISON LOUIS JADOT

Maison Louis Jadot is considered to have one of the finest winemaking reputations across Burgundy. Founded in 1859 and owning over 60 hectares of vineyard in the region, the Domaines are run by Pierre-Henri Gagey, assisted by Jacques Lardière, one of the most respected head winemakers working in Burgundy today. Lardière's philosophy is one of minimal intervention, in both the vineyard and the winery, generating wines which display fresh fruit and natural minerality.

Pre-eminent wine critic Robert Parker said of the Domaines *"one can be almost certain that a Jadot wine from Burgundy, from whatever part of their enormous spectrum of wines, including those of villages level, will possess clarity of flavour and a site-specific distinction."* In 2019 Jadot have outdone themselves, with a selection of some of the finest burgundies the Noble Rot team has ever tasted. For Burgundy lovers, Jadot should be the first stop when making your selections.

LOUIS JADOT

Chablis Grand Cru "Blanchot'
£290 per 6 bottles in Bond

In what is a great Chablis vintage, this Grand Cru is gorgeously weighty and rich. Fresh apple, lemon and a touch of blossom on the nose are underpinned by mouthwatering acidity and a pleasing touch of salinity on the palate.

Pernand Vergelesses 1er Cru 'Clos de la Croix de Pierre', Domaine Ferret
£130 per 6 bottles in Bond

One of the finds from last year, this white Pernand Vergelesses is a hidden gem from the Côte de Beaune, offering exceptional value for money. A wine with excellent structure, freshness, minerality and balance.

Meursault 1er Cru 'Charmes', Domaine Louis Jadot
£335 per 6 bottles in Bond

A special Meursault from a sought-after parcel. This 'Charmes' displayed excellent mineral freshness, as well as ripe, aromatic fruit, most likely due to its Eastern orientation. Light cream & smoke on the palate, this is classic Meursault.

Puligny Montrachet 1er Cru 'Les Referts', Domaine Louis Jadot'
£325 per 6 bottles in Bond

A voluptuous Puligny with incredible balance, body & structure, along with exceptional ripeness & freshness. There is magical terroirs-driven sense of place through its minerality, and a finish that is exquisite and long-lived. Sublime.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Morgeot 'Clos des la Chapelle', Monopole
£325 per 6 bottles in Bond

This very special Chassagne is beguiling in this stellar vintage: feminine and elegant on the nose with honey, nougat & blossom. On the palate it unfurls with layers of complexity & richness, all in perfect harmony & serene balance.

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru, Domaine des Héritiers Louis Jadot
£870 per 6 bottles in Bond

This is a regal wine with an opulent bouquet - multi-faceted this is a wine lover's dream. Exceptionally rich in this vintage with layers of spice, nuts, honey and fruit, it maintains lip-smacking acidity and freshness. This is a triumph.

A name famous the world over: Bâtard Montrachet

Bâtard Montrachet Grand Cru
£885 per 3 bottles in Bond

Potentially perfect, there is Mango, lemongrass, ginger & honey on the nose, with light toast, giving way to archetypal Burgundian minerality on the palate. Goosebump-inducing freshness & vitality augments a real sense of place. The finish is stunning & this will last for decades.

Jadot's impressive circular winery in Beaune

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Morgeot 'Clos des la Chapelle'
£180 per 6 bottles in Bond

Chassagne red is only made in tiny quantities and is something of a hidden secret., snapped up by those of us in the trade. This is a fine, ripe pinot noir and **exceptional value for money.**

Volnay 1er Cru 'Clos de la Barre', Monopole
£270 per 6 bottles in Bond

A Volnay of supreme elegance, with lovely notes of crushed strawberry, redcurrant and red cherry alongside a rich seam of that iron-led minerality. There is a serious, muscular backbone of mineral structure & filigree tannins. **A long & refreshing finish makes this a superb Volnay.**

Pommard 1er Cru 'Grands Epenots'
£320 per 6 bottles in Bond

A rich, concentrated wine with superb depth of flavour. There is tremendous structure here, with fine, well-integrated tannins, and lingering acidity. **This is a wine which has all the ingredients to evolve beautifully over time.**

Nuits Saint Georges 1er Cru 'Les Boudots', Domaine Gagey
£370 per 6 bottles in Bond

A handsomely full-bodied Nuits Saint Georges with complexity & elegance throughout. This is one appellation which had no trouble whatsoever in maintaining freshness in this hotter vintage. **This is a must buy for red Burgundy lovers.**

Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru 'Les Baudes'. Domaine Gagey
£405 per 6 bottles in Bond

There is a profound terroirs-driven minerality to this Chambolle Musigny with crushed red and black fruits, as well as liquorice, white pepper, forest floor and top notes of blueberry and violet. **Elegance abound, this is a special wine.**

Gevrey Chambertin 1er Cru 'Lavaux Saint-Jacques'
£395 per 6 bottles in Bond

A beautifully structured Gevrey with rich fruit flavours and fine tannins - it will age gracefully. **Half the price of its neighbouring 1er cru Clos St-Jacques, this is a Gevry to treasure**

Clos Vougeot Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot
£570 per 6 bottles in Bond

Deeply concentrated, the rich, wild fruit flavours seem endless, as well as subtle chocolate & coffee notes, too. This is the archetypal iron fist in a velvet glove - with power married to elegance, complexity & supreme grace. **A classic in 2019.**

Echezeaux Grand Cru, Domaine Gagey
£1,030 per 6 bottles in Bond

This Grand Cru is a knockout wine with a wonderful bouquet, a veritable kaleidoscope of fruit flavours with hints of leather & spice. On the palate it delights with structure, poise & balance whilst delivering grip & freshness on the finish.

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru
£990 per 6 bottles in Bond

A full-bodied and well-structured Clos de la Roche Grand Cru with real robustness. Soil-driven layers of aroma unfurl: cranberry, redcurrant, mocha & menthol. On the palate, crushed berries abound, with grippy tannins & a mineral backbone. **A wine that will age superbly.**

Chapelle Chambertin Grand Cru, Domaine Louis Jadot
£990 per 6 bottles in Bond

A remarkably rich & sumptuous Chapelle Chambertin: a big, inky and terroir-driven nose unfurls with bramble fruits, prunes, figs and a hint of rosemary. The palate shows extraordinary finesse. **An utterly compelling wine.**

DOMAINE BERTRAND AMBROISE

Maison Bertrand Ambroise has its origins in the 18th century with small parcels that have been tended to across several generations. It took 300 years for the Ambroise family to settle down in Premeaux-Prissey, a small village near Nuits-Saint-Georges in the heart of the Hautes Cotes de Nuits appellation. Here the best wines produced in the village can bear the Nuits-Saint-Georges name, as their exceptional Vielle Vignes does. In 1987, Bertrand Ambroise took control of the domain, which now reaches across approximately 52 acres and is farmed completely organically, as part of their desire to let their terroirs do the talking.

Nuits Saint Georges Vielles Vignes
£420 per 12 bottles in Bond

This is a decidedly decadent Nuits Saint Georges with pleasing grip. Bramble fruits, blueberry & bilberry percolate around the palate and there is excellent freshness on the finish to ensure that this is a triumph from Bertrand Ambroise.

Vosne Romanée 'Aux Damaudes'
£520 per 12 bottles in Bond

The first thing one notices about this wine is its intoxicating bouquet, with heady aromas of crushed red & black fruits, smoke and liquorice. **Neighbouring world-famous sites like Romanée Conti and Richebourg,** this village wine is extraordinary value for the complexity it gives.

Corton 'Le Rognet'
£680 per 12 bottles in Bond

A gorgeous perfume of crushed red fruits, smoke & stony minerality. Very deep & concentrated on the palate with an array of wild autumnal fruits, it marries extreme intensity with a generous juicy sweetness. Broad and full, with restrained power. **The finish is magnificent.**

Harvest in the Bertrand Ambroise vineyards around Nuits Saint Georges. Production is entirely organic and done by hand.

DOMAINE JEAN-JACQUES GIRARD

Jean Girard tended vineyards in and around Savigny-Lès-Beaune since 1529 and now, seven generations later, Jean-Jacques continues the family heritage. Today the family land under vine is about fifteen hectares and Jean-Jacques farms with a deep understanding of and respect for the soil and its environment. Domaine Jean-Jacques Girard's wines mature for fifteen months in barrel, always with a portion of new oak to add structure and finesse to the smooth, supple fruit that he harvests. This is as traditional a winemaker as one can find in Burgundy and his wines are a delightful new find for us at Noble Rot Fine Wine.

Jean-Jacques Girard

Pernand Vergelesses 1er Cru 'Vergelesses'
£290 per 12 bottles in Bond

Lovely structure here and well-integrated tannins in **a Pernand Vergelesses that has exceptional purity and freshness**. Ripe crunchy fruit and spice abound on the palate with lingering meatier notes on the finish.

Savigny-Lès-Beaune 1er Cru 'Les Serpentières'
£290 per 12 bottles in Bond

'Les Serpentières' is a sought-after cru that delivers structure as well as freshness and this wine is no different, combining crushed red & black fruits, with light notes of tobacco, forest floor and even meat. **For the price this is a special**

Volnay Vielles Vignes
£340 per 12 bottles in Bond

An old vines Volnay with a sumptuous perfume of summer berries: strawberry, raspberry and blueberry. In addition there are elegant floral notes of rose petal and violet making for an intoxicating perfume. **On the palate this has poise, structure and unerring precision.**

Pommard Vielles Vignes
£390 per 12 bottles in Bond

This Pommard displays a delicate, fresh nose of red berries & floral touches. On the palate the wine is well-balanced with a medium body, supple tannins and good structure, **culminating in an elegant finish**

Jean-Jacques Girard amongst his vines in Savigny-Lès-Beaune

DOMAINE GÉRARD THOMAS ET FILLES

Gérard Thomas has been in control of this Saint-Aubin estate since 1982 and is now helped by his two daughters, Isabelle and Anne. Gerard has been expanding the domaine in Côtes de Beaune since the 1980s through acquisitions in Chassagne and Puligny-Montrachet. Harvesting is by hand with careful handling of complete bunches to avoid oxidation & several passes through the vineyard during harvest to ensure optimum ripeness. All the whites are barrel fermented with 25% new oak used. Ten months in cask follows, with regular lees stirring to add depth. Thomas' hallmark style is one of purity, freshness & precision, whilst for Noble Rot clients there is great value to be had. We can say without doubt that Gérard Thomas is one of Saint-Aubin's finest producers.

DOMAINE GÉRARD THOMAS & Filles
PROPRIÉTAIRE-RÉCOLTANT

Saint Aubin 1er Cru Sous Roche Dumay
£280 per 12 bottles in Bond

The 1er Cru site of Sous Roche Dumay borders onto Puligny-Montrachet so there is much value to be had here. On the nose are aromas of toastiness from the oak, some lees & fresh, green fruit. On the palate there is excellent elegance & freshness & a long mouthwatering finish.

Puligny Montrachet 'Le Trézin'
£390 per 12 bottles in Bond

Bordering the 1er Cru parcel of 'Sous le Puits', 'Le Trezin' is an excellent offering from this Domaine, with a voluptuous mouthfeel, ripe fruit, creaminess & fleet-footed minerality. The finish is lipsmackingly fresh at first, but unfurls to a rich, opulent cadence.

DOMAINE ROY

Based in the village of Fontenay-près-Chablis, The Roy family have been growing vines here since 1810. Today the domaine is run by Claude Roy along with the next generation of the family, daughter Karine and nephew David.

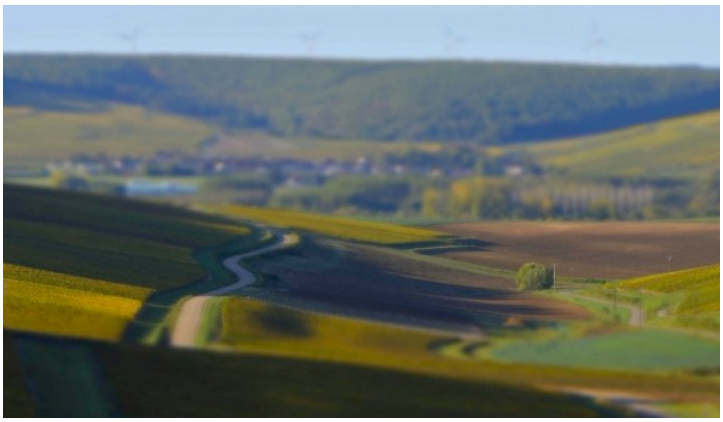
They farm 20 hectares of vines, exclusively found on the right bank of the River Serein, from which they make 4 different Chablis appellations.

Traditionally Claude & his family like to harvest a week or so later than neighbouring Domaines to ensure their grapes reach full ripeness before harvesting, preserving all the aromas, character and freshness of the fruit. Vinification is carried out in stainless steel vats, making for Chablis of unerring freshness as well as depth.

Roy DOMAINE

Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Preuses'
£450 per 12 bottles in Bond

'Les Preuses' is nestled between two other Grand Cru sites, Bougros & Vaudésir, and it shows its breeding on the nose with light floral notes, some spice & crushed stone minerality. This is a Chablis Grand Cru with a luxurious mouthfeel & a long, refreshing finish. Excellent.



Right: A shot of the Domaine Roy land under vine in Chablis

DOMAINE SAMUEL BILLAUD

Part of an esteemed Chablis family, Samuel Billaud set out on his own in 2009 to found his eponymous domaine. He had previously been the winemaker at Domaine Billaud-Simon, which has been a shining light for traditional Chablis of real distinction. Billaud's winery is in the heart of Chablis and is set up so that he only needs to pump his wines once, then gravity does the rest. An obsessive winemaker & perfectionist, Billaud has pioneered new techniques in the winery that enhance, rather than clash with, his traditional outlook. He uses square stainless steel and concrete vats to treat specific parcels of vines differently and bring out their distinct qualities in each vintage. We were so impressed with this Domaine's wines that we are offering the Petit Chablis, Chablis and Chablis 1er Cu, all of which offer exceptional value for white Burgundy lovers.

Les Grands Terroirs

SAMUEL BILLAUD

Petit Chablis
£150 per 12 bottles in Bond

This is no ordinary Petit Chablis and comes from a special parcel of vines, which sits just above the Grand Cru site of 'Les Clos' ensuring that it offers unique complexity on the nose, with rich, ripe fruit. Refreshing on the palate, this is an absolute bargain at £12.50 a bottle in bond.

Chablis
£180 per 12 bottles in Bond

This is a highly aromatic Chablis with a lovely note of lemon peel, green apple and crushed stone minerality. On the palate this is class personified, a Chablis with incredible depth and richness to complement the traditional acidity and freshness on the finish. Fantastic.

Chablis 1er Cru 'Séchet' Vielles Vignes
£340 per 12 bottles in Bond

Pear drop notes give way to crushed oyster shell, white peach & lemon rind, promising freshness & ripeness that are delivered on the palate with aplomb. There is superb structure to this 1er Cru, richness & a long-lived finish full of zing. Tremendous value in this superb Chablis vintage.

Samuel Billaud in his winery. He is considered a rising star of the region, making exceptional, terroir-driven wines.

DOMAINE SYLVAIN BZIKOT

Based in the heart of the Côte de Beaune village of Puligny-Montrachet, Sylvain Bzikot makes wines with real personality. His 13 hectare estate was originally founded by his grandparents in the 1940s who had arrived as Polish immigrants to work in the vineyards around the neighbouring village of Meursault. After a few years they were able to purchase small parcels of land which they subsequently planted.

We were struck when tasting Sylvain's wines with just how far they punched above their weight. It turns out that is by no accident, with his Bourgogne Chardonnay made from blue-blooded parcels of vines across Puligny-Montrachet, whilst his Meursault is made with fruit from similarly special sites in the Meursault appellation. Both of these wines offer exceptional drinking for the price and come highly recommended by us.

Bourgogne Chardonnay
£180 per 12 bottles in Bond

Very well made Bourgogne blanc with a crystalline mineral structure & tremendous fruit freshness. Under the bonnet this is a wine which goes on to offer real richness on the palate, **thanks to its provenance from sites across Puligny-Montrachet. A steal at £15 a bottle in bond.**

Meursault
£420 per 12 bottles in Bond

There is an intoxicating perfume to this Meursault, offering lovely notes of white blossom, white peach & lemon. In the mouth this wine offers superb complexity for the price, with real mineral structure, ripe fruit, enduring freshness & creaminess on the finish. **A total bargain.**

Above: Sylvain Bzikot in his caves

Below: Puligny-Montrachet, from which parcels of grapes are harvested to go into Bzikot's Bourgogne Chardonnay

How En Primeur works with Noble Rot

Our commitment to our clients

All of the wines contained in this Burgundy 2019 document are offered en primeur, that is to say that they are currently still in barrel. They will be ready for delivery to the UK in Q4 of 2021, which we shall arrange.

All wines will be shipped directly to Vine International, within London City Bond, to be stored under bond. At this point you may request that the wines are delivered to you, which we can arrange at cost.

When a wine is removed from bonded storage, duty and VAT will be payable on the value of the wine and will be billed to you.

We will only ever offer wines to our clients which we would buy for ourselves. Wines must represent excellent value for money (taking into account the prevailing market). Wines that do not meet our standards will not be offered to our clients, even if that means us losing our allocations.

All wines in barrel are insured by our producers and once in bottle are insured by our carriers, then us. All wines are stored in segregated customer accounts and owned in full by our clients, not by us.

To secure your wines, please contact us via:

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FINE WINE LTD

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