



2019 Côte de Beaune reds

Bichot's chief viticulturalist Christophe Chauvel conducted the tasting and told me that 2019 "was a vintage that gave us generally lower yields due partially to the April frost and partially due to a moderately poor flowering. Add to this the dehydrating effects of a very hot and dry summer and by the time we arrived at the harvest, there were fewer bunches and not much juice in the berries. To provide an idea, normally for to make one barrel of red, we need about 330 kg of fruit. In 2019 we needed on average 365 kg. When taken all together, yields were down about 30% relative to a normal crop. One of the interesting things about the harvest was that the juice was so ripe that it literally stained your hands red! You don't see that very often. The stems were quite ripe and we chose to use more of them than usual. As to the wines, they have a lovely freshness and energy plus they are more transparent to the underlying terroir than 2018. They have everything they need to age well. As to the quality between the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune, there really isn't a noticeable difference. Rather, we find the differences within the two Côtes to be more apparent. For example, Volnay and Pommard did really well in the Côte de Beaune and Vosne and Chambolle were outstanding in the Côte de Nuits. We bottled many of the 2019s earlier than usual, which is to say between December 2020 and January 2021."

2019 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru "Les Grands Picotins" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

Some post-bottling reduction masks the underlying fruit but it shouldn't last. Otherwise the middle weight flavors are fresh and generously proportioned with a fleshy and round texture, all wrapped in a nicely complex if mildly tangy finale. 2024+

2019 Beaune "Les Epenottes" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(from the villages portion of the vineyard). A pretty and very fresh nose consists mostly of both red and dark pinot fruit with plenty of warm earth nuances. There is excellent vibrancy to the detailed and delicious flavors that possess a decidedly fleshy mouthfeel. 2024+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Brouillards" Domaine du Pavillon: 89

A brooding and more deeply pitched nose reluctantly offers up its aromas of poached plum, dark cherry and a pretty spice whiff. There is again fine verve and better mid-palate density to the delineated middle weight flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and more complex finish where the supporting tannins are notably finer. 2025+

2019 Volnay 1er Cru "Les Santenots" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

(from Les Plures). Discreet but perceptible wood sets off the overtly spicy aromas of dark cherry and raspberry that are trimmed in equally discreet nuances of violet and lavender. There is fine mid-palate concentration to the medium-bodied flavors that possess solid power and focus on the sneaky long, balanced and firm finish. 2031+

2019 Pommard "Clos des Ursulines" Domaine du Pavillon: 88

(a huge 4 ha monopole of the domaine that gave the equivalent of 32 hl/ha in 2019). This is also brooding and restrained and requires vigorous swirling to reveal its softly earthy aromas of black pinot fruit and lovely floral elements. There is fine punch to the unusually refined middle weight flavors. This is very tightly wound and will need at least a few years to bottle aging to become more approachable. 2027+

2019 Pommard 1er Cru "Les Rugiens" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 **SWEET SPOT WINE**

(from Rugiens Bas that gave 30 hl/ha). An equally restrained but wonderfully elegant, pure and very floral suffused nose displays essence of red and dark raspberry, plum and rose petal. There is terrific delineation and an abundance of minerality on the bigger yet finer flavors that possess a sophisticated mouthfeel and evident power on the moderately austere, complex and well-balanced finale. As is usual for Rugiens, this is quite firm and will need extended patience. One to strongly consider. 2034+

2019 Aloxe-Corton Domaine du Pavillon: 89 **TOP VALUE WINE**

(from Les Crapousuets). This is much less elegant but more sauvage on the attractively fresh nose of various dark berries and pungent earth. There is fine volume to the solidly powerful, rich and concentrated middle weight flavors that are unusually refined on the mid-palate though the typical rusticity does show up on the firm and mildly austere finale. This is a very good Aloxe villages in a commune not really known for them. 2027+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Les Fournières" Domaine du Pavillon: (90-92)

Here the nose is similar to the Aloxe if slightly spicier. Somewhat curiously, the medium weight flavors are not quite as dense though there is fine energy and detail along with more minerality and power on the very serious, tightly wound and youthfully austere finale. This moderately rustic effort is classic Aloxe. 2031+

2019 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 92

This is also appealingly spicy with good breadth to the nose of poached plum, violet, lavender and warm earth. There is excellent volume to the velvet-textured medium-bodied flavors that flash evident minerality on the youthfully austere finale that offers impressive depth and persistence in a firmly structured package. 2031+

2019 Corton Grand Cru "Clos des Maréchaudes" Domaine du Pavillon: 93 **SWEET SPOT WINE**

(a ~1.9 ha monopole that is split between ~.5 ha classified as grand cru and the remaining 1.4 ha as 1er). This is compositionally similar to the 1er but notably more restrained. The powerful and muscular bigger-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density and ample minerality on the more persistent finish. It's clear there is a bit more overall potential here compared to the 1er. 2034+

Burghound.com 2019 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 \$250 "Don't Miss Wines"; note that I have tried to layer these selections to portray a representative range between the two price points.