

*Propriétaire en Grands Crus et Premiers Crus
de Bourgogne depuis 1859*



Jean Chartron

A

21190 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

Press Review

Vintage 2020





Allen Meadows'

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The ultimate Burgundy reference

Jean Chartron (Puligny-Montrachet)

2020	Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(91-94)
2020	Bourgogne Côte d'Or	white	86
2020	➔ Chassagne-Montrachet	white	89
2020	Chevalier-Montrachet "Clos des Chevaliers" Grand Cru	white	(92-95)
2020	Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru	white	92
2020	Meursault	white	88
2020	Montrachet Grand Cru	white	(93-95)
2020	Pernand-Vergelesses	white	88
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet	white	89
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos du Cailleret" 1er	white	92
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Les Folatières" 1er	white	91
2020	➔ Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Pucelle" 1er	white	91
2020	Rully "Montmorin"	white	87
2020	St. Aubin "Murgers des Dents de Chien" 1er	white	90
2020	Santenay – Les Pierres Sèches	white	87

Jean-Michel Chartron is the 5th generation of the family to direct this 14.5 ha domaine that owns some of the finest terroirs in Puligny. As was the case with the 2019 vintage, Chartron professed to be very pleased with the results of the 2020 vintage as well, noting that "the trick was to find the right date to pick and remarkably, we started on the 14th of August with the pinot and then slowly began on our parcels of chardonnay. Yields for the whites were surprisingly good, given how hot and dry the growing season was, at between 45 and 50 hl/ha. Potential alcohols were also quite reasonable as they ranged from 12.5 to 13.5% with good supporting acidities. Stylistically, 2020 produced classic and strikingly fresh and vibrant whites that have the balance to age for years yet there is sufficient mid-palate fat to allow them to be approached young." Chartron noted that he's now using the Diam brand for the entire range whereas before it was only for the entry level wines. As such, he has reduced the level of free SO₂ from 40 ppm to 35 ppm. The following wines are mostly from domaine fruit though there are a few lower-level wines that are bought in either fruit or must. Lastly, most of the 2020 whites were bottled in February just before my visit. (Winebow Inc., www.winebow.com, Montvale, NJ and Serge Doré Selections, Chappaqua, NY, www.sergedoreselections.com, both USA; Goedhuis & Co., www.goedhuis.com, UK and Private Cellar Ltd., www.privatecellar.co.uk, UK).

2020 St. Aubin “Murgers des Dents de Chien”: (from 4 parcels that total .51 ha). The altitude of the vineyard shows as the aromatic profile is prominently citrusy with its notes of just sliced green apple and carnation. The racy and beautifully detailed middle weight flavors exude more evident minerality on the sneaky long and well-balanced finale. This should also age well yet it's not so tightly wound that it couldn't be approached young if that's your preference. 90/2026+

2020 Chassagne-Montrachet: (from a .55 ha holding that is mostly situated in Les Benoîtes). Riper aromas include those of resin, rosemary oil, apple and a whiff of earth. There is very good volume to the attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that offer fine length on the mildly rustic, balanced and lingering finale. While this won't win any awards for refinement, it's actually a quality Chassagne *villages*. 89/2026+

2020 Puligny-Montrachet: (from a .45 ha holding in Les Tremblots, Les Levrans and Derrière la Velle). Here the nose is notably more floral in character with its array of acacia, carnation and rose petal notes that add a touch of elegance to the ripe white orchard fruit and anise scents. The sleek, intense and more refined medium weight flavors deliver solid length if only average depth. Still, the underlying material appears to be of sufficient quality that more complexity should develop in time and my rating assumes that it will. 89/2026+

2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Les Folatières”: (from 3 parcels totaling .53 ha in Es Folatières). Subtle though perceptible notes of wood set off the vaguely exotic aromas of white peach, passion fruit and a similar array of floral elements. There is a bit more volume to the delicious middle weight flavors that flash a really lovely underlying tension on the youthfully austere bitter lemon-inflected finale. This is beautifully refreshing and a wine that should repay up to a decade of cellaring. 91/2028+

2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos de la Pucelle”: (a 1.16 ha monopole of the domaine though some production is sold). As is often the case, there is a suggestion of the exotic on the markedly spicy nose of white and yellow peach, apricot and pretty floral nuances. The generous and very rich, even opulent, medium-bodied flavors that possess a highly seductive texture before terminating in a lingering finale. This too could use a bit more depth, but more will almost certainly develop with a few years of bottle aging. 91/2027+

2020 Puligny-Montrachet “Clos du Cailleret”: (from a .99 ha holding that is no longer noted as a monopole on the label). A touch of mineral reduction lurks in the background of the ripe and fresh aromas of apple, pear, white flower and discreet spice nuances. The sleeker if less rich middle weight flavors flash more a more prominent bead of minerality on the delineated, more complex and lingering finale. This beauty is both stylish and very classy and a wine that should improve over most of a decade. 92/2028+

2020 Corton-Charlemagne: (from Le Charlemagne). Attractively layered aromas of smoked Granny Smith apples, mineral reduction and white flowers are trimmed in mildly toasty oak. There is even better volume to the very punchy medium weight plus flavors that exhibit good power on the succulent, clean, moderately dry and sappy finale. This too would benefit from having better depth but that should progressively improve with time in bottle. 92/2028+

2020 Bâtard-Montrachet: (from a .13 ha parcel on the Puligny side). A discreet application of wood is also present here on the ripe aromas of white and yellow orchard fruit, particularly peach, along with a plethora of spice and pretty floral wisps. There is excellent volume to the sappy and delicious larger-scaled flavors that also display good power on the balanced and impressively long finish. This too needs better depth but that is all but assured to develop in time. (91-94)/2028+

2020 Chevalier-Montrachet “Clos des Chevaliers”: (from a .55 ha holding though the equivalent of 3 barrels is sold each year). This is aromatically quite smoky in character with its nose of pear essence, citrus confit and equally broad-ranging floral elements. I very much like the sophisticated texture of the mineral-driven broad-shouldered flavors that exude an abundance of minerality on the impressively persistent and beautifully delineated finale. This is quite firm and should age well yet it is not so tightly wound that it couldn't be approached after around 5 or so years. (92-95)/2030+

2020 Montrachet: (from the Puligny side). A restrained if highly complex nose is spicier if less floral-suffused with a more evident wood treatment. The big-bodied, powerful and concentrated flavors brim with sappy dry extract though less obvious minerality on the compact, tightly wound and built-to-age finale. This is basically an undifferentiated block at present and leaves no doubt that it's going to require extended cellaring to reveal its considerable potential. (93-95)/2032+

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Domaine Jean Chartron
Jean-Michel Chartron
Grande-Rue
21190 Puligny-Montrachet
France

Erlangen, 16.05.2022

Vous êtes monté en puissance au classement **wein.plus !**

Cher Monsieur Chartron,

D'après nos récents résultats de dégustation, votre établissement vinicole a obtenu un classement supérieur dans wein.plus. Félicitations!

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Cordialement,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marcus Hofschuster".

Marcus Hofschuster

Au nom de toute l'équipe de wein.plus

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Domaine Jean Chartron,
Vieilles Vignes, Hautes-Côtes de Beaune 2020 - Decanter

Domaine Jean Chartron, Vieilles Vignes, Hautes-Côtes de Beaune 2020



Tasted by Charles Cur s MW (at Burgundy, 22 May 2021)
Part of

Sourced from Nantoux above Pommard in the lieux-dits 'Sous la Roche' and 'En le Bois Guillemain', this is partly tank-fermented and partly fermented in one old 500-litre cask to maintain freshness. The result is pleasantly lemony but not at all thin; there is a marvellous balance here making this a delightful wine for early drinking.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2031

Producer	Domaine Jean Chartron	Vintage	2020
Type	Still	Colour	White
Country	France	Region	Burgundy
Appellation	Hautes-Côtes de Beaune	Sweetness	Dry
Closure	Cork	Alcohol	13.50%
Body	Light	Oak	Lightly Oaked
Grapes	100% Chardonnay		

Decanter PREMIUM

Tasted by Charles Cur s MW (at Burgundy, 22 May 2021)
Part of

Chartron has a magnificent holding of 12 ouvrées (0.47 hectares) at the northern end of Chevalier-Montrachet called the Clos des Chevaliers, en rely enclosed by walls. Half of the vineyard was planted right after WWII. The 2019 vintage is rive ng. The aromas range from green apple to chamomile, butter, and hazelnut. The wine has the power of Bâtard, but with more finesse and an almost Montrachet-like length. Top-level stuff, this should age for decades.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2040



Tasted in Puligny with Jean-Michel Chartron, 21 October, 2021.

Domaine Jean Chartron

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"2021 brought about 50% of the normal volume of wine and we made a couple of Treatments to achieve that, too."

Jean-Michel on 2020:

"It was an important 'sortie' of grapes at the start of the year, the response to the small frost we had in 2019. In the end, the rendement was lower than anticipated – fewer grapes on the hillsides, the flats were not too bad – Puligny has a lot of flats so no complaints! I think the pinot suffered a little more, Caillerets was only 225 kg – 40% less than for a full barrel. That's the yield perspective but from the perspective of quality I think super – the balance of sugar and acidity is very interesting indeed – we won't have any heavy wines. We started 14th August with the Caillerets red and didn't finish until the 10th September in the Hautes Côtes – that and the Charlemagne were both picked in September. It was a hot year but one that was balanced with cool nights."

Jean-Michel continues to craft wines of precision, drive and energy. In 2020 you can add detail and fluidity to those descriptors!

"If I have the time, bottling will start before the St. Vincent, if not it will be in February."

All the Bourgognes are sealed with DIAM, higher wines depends on the vintage – Caillerets/Pucelles in cork like the GCs except Corton-Charlemagne which is also DIAM.



First, les Reds:

2020 Bourgogne Côte d'Or (or Bourgogne VV)

Again the label depends on markets – but it's the same wine.

Deep, open, lots of complexity – I might think some wc but there's none. Big in the mouth – round, full of fruit, faintly accented with the finest grain of tannin. Lingering on a mouth-watering note – have a bit of patience but there's a lot of (super) wine here.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Clos du Cailleret (Rouge)

Less coloured, fresh with less weight of aroma – much more elegant. Layered, extra-fine, practically no grain to this tannin. That's a fine finish with waves of flavour. Holding well too.

Les Whites:

2020 Bourgogne Chardonnay Cuvée Eugénie Dupard

Bottled end of July. 3 labels for the same cuvée. Also (possibly!) labelled simply as Bourgogne Côte d'Or or Bourgogne VV for markets outside France – Jean-Michel is open!

A nose of lovely, airy, freshness. Really a concentration – nice intensity too – not the finesse of higher wines but you have everything here for the label – Excellent wine.

2020 Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune Blanc Vieilles Vignes

Also airy and fresh – a bit more salinity too. Easier, more melting flavour over the palate – more calm in comparison too. Long and very lovely. More elegant – I'd take this ahead of the last – bravo!

2020 Rully Montmorlins

4 hectares here.

Here is a much more mineral, narrower nose. Nice shape and energy in the mouth. Complex, fresh – great Rully – crunchy, fresh, gorgeous wine.

2020 Santenay Les Pierres Seche

Just one parcel.

A smaller nose but with good purity and freshness. A little extra ripeness but still surrounded by freshness and energy. Very good.



2020 Savigny-lès-Beaune *Nourrissants, Théologiques et Morbifuges*

That's a nice combination of ripe citrus – mainly yellow – and freshness. Mouth-filling, great energy and ripeness – the first wine with some creamy oak showing. I'd personally wait for that to fade – but this is a lovely wine with a fine and fresh mouthfeel but not too much energy.

2020 Pernand-Vergelesses

Mainly from Belles Filles

A calmer, slightly more compact nose but with a good and fresh width. Slightly saline, certainly a little Pernand reductive style in the flavour – vibrant finishing – great finishing – that's excellent.

2020 Meursault

A blend of parcels that are high on the hill towards Puligny – Tillets and Narvaux – 'I want a Puligny style hence the locations but this very Meursault.' This was previously called 'Pierres' but the douane didn't like that as it sounded too much like Perrières! So...

A smaller nose, like the last, but the width has fine Meursault spice and a little freshness. Also in the mouth, nicely fresh and faintly with ginger-spice. A faint framing of the flavours with a tiny grain of tannin – gorgeously mobile finishing – delicious wine!

2020 Chassagne-Montrachet

This used to be labelled Les Benoîtes but now includes (separately vinified) the young vines – actually the first harvest – from their Chassagne 1er Caillerets

A lovely width of more perfumed and floral aroma. Ooh – that's lovely – mouth-filling with an airy freshness but at the same time deliciously flavoured. That a top, perfumed, delicious villages.

2020 St.Aubin 1er Perrières

That's a lovely nose, deep, mineral, fresh, with a suggestion of reduction. Fully mineral, properly mouth-filling, structural but not too much rigour – you can safely approach it – or wait. A stony finish. Lovely again...

2020 St.Aubin 1er Murgers des Dents du Chien

Airy, wide, a little more class to this fresh fruit. Also in the mouth – a wine of fresh energy, very faintly framed with tannin. A lovely and pure finish, creamy with a little oak too. A super wine as always.



2020 Puligny-Montrachet

Not a lot of domaine villages here so this an assembly with multiple contracts too. 'Normally three parcels with a hint of 1er from the Meursault side. Mainly Sous la Velle, Levrans and Rue Rousseau, plus some must from colleagues as I own only a dozen ouvrées.'

A little agrume fruit is visible in this nicely fresh nose. Easy over the palate – too easy to drink! – but still with a super balance and a nice peak of finishing flavour. Just a delicious Puligny.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet Enseignières

A very attractive extra strictness to this nose – more structural – but I like. In the mouth too – a little gas – there's really extra of everything here – a great mouth-watering finish too – bravo!

2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru Vieilles-Vignes

The largest part of this is from Hameau de Blagny

Plenty of airy freshness – though, this nose is less perfectly defined than the Enseignières. A little more intensity to the fresh flavour than the last wine – here is the step-up expected of a premier cru – super wine!

2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Folatières

That's a great nose – direct, fresh, a noble reduction. Also in the mouth, this is just so good – an airy character but not to the detriment of the concentration or the delicious energy of the flavours – a really excellent Folatières.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Clos de la Pucelles

The 103rd vintage for this wine at the domaine.

A much tighter nose – but the clarity of aroma is there. Extra mineral – even after the Folatières. A wine of structure but pure complexity too – for this, you definitely need to wait longer. Vibrantly finishing though – super wine but be patient!

2020 Puligny-Montrachet 1er Clos des Caillerets

Also the 103rd vintage for this wine chez Chartron. This, together with the Clos Chevalier and Clos de Pucelles were bought from a Madame Billerey – her domaine had an amazing collection of vineyards. Jean-Michel's grandfather had half a hectare of pinot in here.

Just a little more open than the Pucelles – an airy impression. Also very, very mineral but here is more sense of width over the palate – a subtle depth of flavour that suggests a reduction but it's not properly evident. Great finishing again – so long...



The following all sampled from barrel:

2020 Corton-Charlemagne

Domaine plus 50% from 2 other sources, Aloxe, Pernand and 'Charlemagne'

Super clarity of fruit though a little barrel reduction at the base. Fuller, more mouth-filling than the last two wines – a little extra density of finishing flavour here – seemingly a step up but less clarity of mid-palate flavour today vs the last 3... Give it time.

2020 Bâtard-Montrachet

Mainly domaine with a little additional from the Chassagne-side.

Here is much aromatic volume; complex, oak spiced, beautiful fruit too. Here is certainly extra – but this is a no fat Bâtard, this is racy as well as concentrated – there is already everything here that you wish for – except for what comes from the benefit of your patience – bravo!

2020 Chevalier-Montrachet, Clos des Chevaliers

A nicely open nose – like the last but without the accent of barrel. Unsurprisingly, more direct, much fresher – the acidity more insinuating here. But then the waves of fresh flavour flow over the palate and I've already forgotten about the acidity – so long and insinuating. Great wine...

2020 Montrachet

From the Chassagne side.

Not a fully open nose but there is some clarity of ripe yellow citrus – but fresh citrus. Mouth-filling, more composed than the Chevalier. Layered, ultra-complex. Ultra-stony. Ultra long too. Not quite the top definition of the last couple today but in many other directions you have more and more. It will be an excellent Montrachet – which effectively means great wine!



Jean-Michel Chartron is a busy man with his various political responsibilities in Puligny-Montrachet, not least the forthcoming (covid permitting) St-Vincent Tournante festivities. Apart from that, he has a sizeable domaine to run, furthered bolstered by a number of negociant cuvées, often achieved by swapping grapes from some of his best 1er and grand cru vineyards to enhance his range of more affordable wines.

The bulk of the 2020 harvest was brought in between 17th and 26th August, outliers being the red Clos du Cailleret on 14th August and the whites from Rully and the Hautes Côtes on 28th August and 7th September respectively. Yields were normal at around 50 hl/ha. Given the early harvest. Degrees remained reasonable, starting at 12.5%.

Apart from the handful of wines already in bottle, the remainder were racked to tank in September, except the grands crus which were still in barrel.

White

JASPER MORRIS
Inside Burgundy

2020, Chassagne-Montrachet

89-91

Four of the twenty barrels come from the first crop of a recent replanting in the 1er cru Caillerets. Clear pale colour, with very elegant fruit, this is a high class Chassagne-Montrachet from good white soil. A very good solid background to this, all white fruit, with a pleasing mineral punch. I suspect the elegance comes from the young vine Caillerets. Tasted: October 2021

2020, Santenay 'Les Pierres Sèches'

88-89

Light lime colour, plenty of energy to this, showing well on the nose. Lime, peach, fresh apricot, a little youthful bitterness. Tasted: October 2021

2020, Pernand-Vergelesses,

88-90

Five barrels in all, four coming from the delightfully names Les Belles Filles sous le Bois de Noel vineyard. Pale clear colour, the nose is classy and typical of Pernand's chiselled clarity yet with a little more generosity of fruit. Tasted: October 2021

2020, Meursault,

88-90

From Les Tillets and Narvaux. Pale clear colour. Quite concentrated bouquet, a little bit chunky, Powerful and intense on the palate with a little bit of citrus at the finish, good length. Tasted: October 2021



**2020, St-Aubin Perrières 1er Cru,
89-91**

Pale colour, with very little nose. Perhaps some pears start to emerge. Good flesh on the palate, well balanced by the cut of the acidity, very suave without being too generous, depth and some length. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, St-Aubin Murgers des Dents de Chien 1er Cru,
90-92**

This comes from a cool spot next to the fir trees. A little more bouquet here, racier than the Perrières. Extra density on the palate, a slight youthful bitterness makes the apple more a granny smith. Tight powerful and length. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet,
89-90**

Another very pale colour, lightly floral on the nose. Good energy here, light mixed citrus notes, racy and with generosity behind, nice thread of acidity. Light on its feet yet with substance. Slight note of orange zest in the mix too. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet Enseignères,
90-92**

From domaine fruit plus one external barrel. A little more stuffing, a little less floral than the regular. Pure white fruit on the palate, a very good thread of mineral acidity running through the middle, just the right level of flesh and a fine long finish. Well done. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet 1er Cru,
90-93**

Mostly from Hameau de Blagny plus one or two declassified barrels from other vineyards. A light lemon and lime in colour, with a certain crisp energy on the nose. Medium concentration, racy fruit with a greener tinge, nicely balanced. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet Folatières 1er Cru,
92-94**

An agreeable colour with a pale green tint. This has energy on the nose, not one of the riper examples (and I mean that as a stylistic rather than a qualitative comment). The fruit is more complete on the palate, predominantly white, perhaps some greengage, good grip at the back, and all the length it should have. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet Clos de la Pucelle 1er Cru,
92-94**

Just a little lime touch to the colour. Intense and pure, slightly truffley on the nose, with an extra weight behind. Sitting back on its haunches, fine concentration, white fruit, a little more flesh appearing at the back, with fairly good persistence. Tasted: October 2021



**2020, Puligny-Montrachet Clos du Cailleret 1er Cru,
93-95**

Excellent fresh lemon and lime colour. Relatively stern on the nose. This is backward, and very striking but not quite in place yet, very backward, all the intensity for sure. Stony white fruit as you would expect. How far does it stretch out. Youthful tension Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru,
92-94**

Very pale colour and where is the bouquet? Here it comes now, slowly. More generous in the mouth with a slight creamy edge, backed by a few stones. It is certainly a good wine, but without the extra drive of the very best in this cellar. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru,
94-96**

Domaine from plus an external barrel. Pale lemon and lime in colour. I like this nose, delivering drive and energy, white fruit not yellow, in the relatively early picked style. There is a tensile strength and definition, a little bit of bacon fat, unquestionably grand cru. Good length too, of course. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Chevalier-Montrachet Clos des Chevaliers Grand Cru,
93-96**

A little oak to boost the fruit which hovers between white and yellow, quite intense, medium class. There is excellent flesh and good acidity, the backbone remains white, very typical Chevalier. Plenty of muscle behind. I think the Bâtard-Montrachet may just win out with time. Tasted: October 2021

**2020, Montrachet Grand Cru,
93-96**

An exchange enables Jean-Michel Chartron to offer some Montrachet. Pale colour with a light lime touch. The nose is tight and tense as yet unyielding, though on the palate the wine becomes super-sensual thereafter, rather ripe with peach and honeysuckle despite the comparative severity up front. The aftertaste delivers the persistence expected of a grand cru. Tasted: October 2021

Red

JASPER MORRIS
Inside Burgundy

**2020, Puligny-Montrachet Clos du Cailleret 1er Cru,
91-93**

Just half a barrel of this unique red Puligny 1er Cru, made from grapes picked on 14th August. Fine rich purple, the nose is not quite showing yet, this has stayed very fresh yet fills the mouth nicely, with a firmer finish. Tasted: October 2021



Puligny-Montrachet Clos de la Pucelle 1er Cru (93-95) 2023 - 2033

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet Clos de la Pucelle 1er Cru has a delineated bouquet with Granny Smith apples, freshly sliced pear and a touch of wet limestone. The palate is well balanced with real weight and concentration on the entry counterbalanced by a fine bead of acidity, taut and linear with the mineralité coming through on the finish. This is excellent.

Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru (92-94) 2024 - 2040

The 2020 Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru has a detailed and quite mineral-driven bouquet, showing a little more personality compared to the Corton-Charlemagne. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, fresh and rounded in texture with white peach, almond and traces of crème brûlée towards the ample finish. Excellent. Four barrels produced. Closure: Diam 30

Montrachet Grand Cru (91-93) 2024 - 2040

The 2020 Montrachet Grand Cru amounts to just one feuillette this year, less than 150 bottles. Crushed limestone and a touch of struck flint on the nose, tight and a little introspective at first, though it opens up with aeration. The palate is well balanced with a slightly honeyed opening. Good depth, missing a little tension towards the finish that just needs more persistence. Very fine, although I prefer Chartron's Chevalier-Montrachet (Comme d'habitude.)

Puligny-Montrachet Clos du Cailleret 1er Cru (91-93) 2024 - 2034

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet Clos du Cailleret 1er Cru is more reserved and austere on the nose compared to the Clos de la Pucelle, wet limestone and hints of oyster shell coming through with time. The palate is well balanced with a slightly honeyed entry, fine depth, hints of apricot and Clementine with a lightly spiced and tensile finish. Lovely, although I just prefer the Clos de la Pucelle.

Puligny-Montrachet les Folatières 1er Cru (91-93) 2023 - 2033

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet les Folatières 1er Cru is fresh and delineated on the nose, scents of Granny Smith, kiwi fruit and a touch of wet limestone, reserved but with the energy to invite cellaring. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, spicier than Chartron's other cuvées this vintage with more persistence on the finish. Excellent. Closure: Diam 11

Saint-Aubin les Murgers des Dents de Chien 1er Cru (91-93) 2022 - 2032

The 2020 Saint-Aubin les Murgers des Dents de Chien 1er Cru, matured in around 25% new oak, has a very fragrant and well-defined bouquet that leaps from the glass. Lots of energy here. The palate is well balanced with a crisp, saline entry. Fresh and zesty, the oak is nicely assimilated and lends real weight towards the finish that has a little more concentration than the previous vintage. This is an excellent Saint-Aubin from Jean-Michel Chartron. Closure: Diam 10

Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru (90-92) 2023 - 2033

There are four barrels of the 2020 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru this year. It is quite reserved on the nose, perhaps just missing a bit of Corton-Charlemagne "grunt". I need to see a little more power. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, waxy in texture with touches of almond and hazelnut towards the finish. It gets better after a slowish start. Closure: Diam 30



Puligny-Montrachet Les Enseignères (90-92) 2023 - 2033

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet Les Enseignères comprises three barrels this year. Taut on the nose, this could only be from Puligny, touches of petrichor and cooking apple peelings coming through with time. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, quite harmonious, maybe just missing a little mineralité and tension towards the finish, although there is satisfying persistency. Very fine. Closure: Diam 5

Savigny-lès-Beaune Blanc (90-92) 2022 - 2027

The 2020 Savigny-lès-Beaune Blanc, which is sometimes comes with the subtitle "Théologique, Nourrissant et Morbifuge", is aged in pièce with 20% new oak. It has a perfumed bouquet with white flowers, silex and light green apple scents. The palate is well-balanced with a fine bead of acidity, taut and fresh, quite saline with a beautifully poised and quite persistent finish. Recommended. Closure: Diam 5

Chassagne-Montrachet Villages (89-91) 2023 - 2033

The 2020 Chassagne-Montrachet Village is the first vintage that includes fruit from replanted vines in Les Caillerets. It is well-defined on the nose with crushed rock and orange blossom emerging with aeration, becoming more malic with aeration, touches of limestone. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, that has a touch more mineralité than previous vintages with good persistency. This comes recommended. Closure: Diam 5

Pernand-Vergelesses Blanc (89-91) 2022 - 2027

There are five barrels of the 2020 Pernand-Vergelesses Blanc this year. It has a taut, Puligny-like bouquet with dewy green apples and petrichor. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, quite harmonious with a delicate touch of spice, demonstrating fine weight on the finish. I find this very satisfying and it should age well in bottle. Closure: Diam 5

Puligny-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru (89-91) 2023 - 2033

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes 1er Cru comes from Hameau de Blagny supplemented by one barrel of Pucelles. It has an attractive bouquet with apple blossom and hints of wild peach unfolding with aeration. The palate is well balanced with a ripe, tropical tinged opening, but this is fresh and quite weighty with a subtle peachy finish. Fine. Closure: Diam 10

Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes-de-Beaune Blanc 89 2021 - 2025

The 2020 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes-de-Beaune Blanc has much more to offer compared to the Bourgogne Blanc with Granny Smith apples, fresh pear and light petrichor scents. The palate is very well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, subtle tropical notes that render this white Burgundy very pretty. Recommended. Closure: Diam 5

Meursault Village (88-90) 2023 - 2032



The 2020 Meursault Village comes mainly from Les Tillets and Narvaux, matured in around 25% new oak. There is a faint marine influence underlying the cooking apple and pear aromas, gently unfolding with aeration. The palate is well balanced with light peach skin and apricot notes, quite pretty though not complex. Yet for a Meursault Village, I find this very satisfying. Closure: Diam 5

Puligny-Montrachet Village (88-90) 2023 - 2032

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet Village comes from Les Levrans and Derrière la Velle plus wines exchanged with other growers. It has a crisp, quite reserved, stony bouquet - one that you might assume comes from a much cooler growing season. The palate is well balanced with a slightly viscous opening, fine acidity, a little honeyed towards the Chassagne-like finish. Enjoy this over the next 6 to 8 years. Closure: Diam 5

Saint-Aubin Les Perrières 1er Cru (88-90) 2024 - 2034

The 2020 Saint-Aubin Les Perrières 1er Cru is taut and Puligny-like on the nose with wet limestone, fish scales and a touch of Granny Smith apples. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry, then dovetails into a slightly fatter mid-palate where it just foregoes a little precision on the finish. Maybe just a slight reduction at the moment, so give it 2-3 years in bottle. Closure: Diam 10



John Gilman

A View from the Cellar January 2022

Jean-Michel Chartron has fashioned a truly lovely range of wines in the 2020 vintage. As is customary when visiting in late November or early December here, a few wines had already been bottled and everything else, up to the level of the grand crus, was already assembled in tank and would be bottled starting in early February of 2022. The Bourgogne Blanc, Hautes Côtes de Beaune and Rully were the wines that had been bottled just before harvest time 2021, with all of the wines in tank having been fined on the 3rd of November. As I was visiting on December 9th, the wines had recovered nicely from their fining and were showing very well indeed. Readers may recall that Domaine Chartron used to produce one of the finest examples of Chassagne-Montrachet "Caillerets" in all the Côte, but several years ago the old vines in this vineyard had to be replanted and it has been missing from their lineup now for many vintages. Starting in 2020, the new vines here make a bit of a comeback in the lineup, as they are now old enough to have found their way in to the blend for the Chassagne-Montrachet village bottling chez Chartron, and their addition is notable in the finished Chassagne AC this year. Jean-Michel Chartron has also decided that his entire lineup will be bottled under Diam beginning with the 2020 vintage, as he has been very happy with how the cuvées he has bottled under this closure in recent vintages have aged under Diam. Jean-Michel has given up his lovely parcel of chardonnay vines in the vineyard of Pimentiers in Savigny-lès-Beaune, and has replaced it with a Savigny "village" Blanc bottling beginning in 2020, which he is making from purchased grapes. As he recounted, "it just did not make sense anymore to have to take my tractor up the Route Nationale and around the peripherique in Beaune to work those vines in Pimentiers, even though I loved the wine we made from there, as that is really a very, very long way to go from Puligny to Savigny- on a tractor!" In exchange for the Pimentiers, The Domaine received a parcel of old vines in the premier cru of Hameau de Blagny in Puligny, as part of the INAO's plan.

to rationalize vineyard ownership a bit throughout the Côte d'Or by organizing such exchanges. Jean-Michel decided to flesh out the Hameau de Blagny bottling with some fruit from Pucelles and Caillerets this year and bottle a Puligny "Premier Cru" Vieilles Vignes from the new parcel, which is really a lovely wine and will be worth keeping an eye out for, as it will be a very good value.

2020 Bourgogne Blanc “Vieilles Vignes”

The Bourgogne Blanc from Domaine Chartron wears two labels these days, as it is bottled as Bourgogne “Côte d’Or” for the French market and as “Vieilles Vignes” now for export. But, it is all the same cuvée. The 2020 version is lovely, offering up scents of apple, peach, chalky soil tones, white flowers and just a touch of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, deep and full, with crisp acids, a juicy core of fruit and good length and grip on the well-balanced finish. All the vines for this bottling are located in Puligny. Good juice.

2022-2030

.89.

2020 Hautes Côtes de Beaune Blanc “En Bois Guillemain”

The 2020 Hautes Côtes de Beaune Blanc chez Chartron was also showing very nicely, having recovered from its August bottling. The bouquet delivers scents of apple, pear, chalky soil tones, a touch of fresh almond, fruit blossoms and just a touch of oak. On the palate the wine deep, focused and a touch fuller-bodied and the Bourgogne this year, with a nice core of fruit, good mineral drive, bright acids and sneaky length on the well-balanced finish. 2022-2030

+.89.

2020 Rully “Montmorin”

Jean-Michel’s 2020 Rully “Montmorin” bottling was also showing very nicely in early December, having recovered from its mise and offering up a lovely bouquet of apple, pear, lime peel, stony minerality and a deft touch of new oak. On the palate the wine is crisp, full-bodied, long and well-balanced, with a good core and soil signature this year, bright acids and a long, classy finish. Rully has been a strong bottling here since all the way back in the mid-1980s, when I first started selling the Chartron family’s wines.

2022-2035.

90.

2020 Santenay “les Pierres Sèches”

The 2020 Santenay “les Pierres Sèches” from Domaine Jean Chartron is another excellent bottle in the making. The bouquet is very stylish, wafting from the glass in a mix of pear, fresh almond, chalky soil tones, pastry cream, lemon zest and a touch of new oak. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied, focused and complex, with a good core, zesty acids and a long, well-balanced and bouncy finish. This is really quite delicious. 2023-2040

90+.



2020 Savigny-lès-Beaune Blanc

The new 2020 Savigny-lès-Beaune Blanc, made from purchased grapes, is lovely in 2020. The wine delivers a very refined, vibrant nose of apple, pear, spring flowers, a lovely base of chalky soil tones a touch of almond, incipient notes of crème patissière and a deft foundation of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied, focused and complex, with an excellent core of fruit, bright acids, lovely focus and balance and a long classy finish. Fine juice

.2022-2040

91.

2020 Pernand-Vergelesses

The 2020 Pernand-Vergelesses from Jean-Michel Chartron is another excellent value in the domaine's lineup this year. The wine delivers a refined aromatic constellation of pear, apple, a beautiful base of limestone minerality, a touch of citrus peel, vanillin oak and a lovely floral top note redolent of lemon blossoms. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied and pure, with a fine core of fruit, impressive soil signature, zesty acids and lovely balance on the long and vibrant finish. A lovely example.

2022-2045

91.

2020 Meursault

The 2020 Meursault bottling from Domaine Chartron is composed half of fruit from les Tillets and half from Narvaux, so this is a pretty high pedigree village. The 2020 version has turned out beautifully, delivering a fine nose of apple, passion fruit, hazelnuts, chalky soil tones, just a hint of pastry cream and a deft framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, focused and zesty, with a fine core, lovely mineral under tow, bright acids and a long, promising and still nicely reserved finish. Good juice, but give it a few years in the cellar to fully blossom

2024-2045

+92.

2020 Chassagne-Montrache

The 2020 Chassagne villages bottling is definitely showing the addition of the younger vine fruit from Caillerets in it this year, as the wine is very refined aromatically, offering up scents of apple, pear, a fine base of chalky minerality, lemon blossoms and a deft touch of new oak. On the palate the wine is pure, bright and full, with fine focus and grip, zesty acids, a fine core of fruit and a long, soil-driven and quite elegant finish.

2023-2050

91.



2020 St. Aubin "Perrières"

The 2020 St. Aubin "Perrières" from Monsieur Chartron is another excellent wine. The bouquet jumps from the glass in a fine blend of pear, peach, stony soil tones, orange zest, springflowers, fresh almond and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and properly reserved out of the blocks (as behooves a premier cru), with a good core of fruit, fine mineral drive and grip, bright acids and a long, focused and quite promising finish. This will only need a year or two in the cellar to really start hitting on all cylinders.

2023-2050

92.

2020 St. Aubin "Murgers des Dents de Chien"

The 2020 Murgers des Dents de Chien bottling from Jean-Michel is also outstanding in this vintage. The wine delivers a refined aromatic constellation of pear, tangerine, a complex base of chalky minerality, fresh almond, crème patissière, orange blossoms and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and crisp, with a lovely core of fruit, fine soil signature, vibrant acids and lovely focus and cut on the long, complex and very classy finish. This is very, very good Saint-Aubin!

2025-2050+

93.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet

The 2020 Puligny villages bottling was the one wine that I thought was still a bit unsettled from its early November fining and not showing to full advantage. It offers up scents of apple, white peach, chalky soil tones, white flowers and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, reserved and shows good depth at the core, with bright acids and good length, but it was a bit out of sorts and not showing the focus that I am sure will arrive once it settles back in to its own with a bit more time in tank. I am sure it will be quite good. 2022-2045

+. 90-91.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet "les Enseignères"

There are four casks of les Enseignères in the Chartron cellars in 2020, with three hailing from the domaine's own parcels and one made from a bit of purchased fruit in the vineyard to augment the size of the cuvée. This was showing beautifully at the time of my visit and is going to be another excellent value to be on the lookout for in the market, as it offers up a lovely bouquet of apple, nectarine, fresh almond, chalky soil tones, a touch of lime zest, fruit blossoms and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied and complex, with a fine core of fruit, good chalky undertow, crisp acids and lovely focus on the long and vibrant finish. This is very, very good!

2024-2050

+. 92.



2020 Puligny-Montrachet "Premier Cru" Vieilles Vignes

The new Premier Cru Vieilles Vignes bottling of Puligny from Jean-Michel Chartron is eighty percent comprised of the production from the new parcel in Hameau de Blagny, augmented by twenty percent from a bit of Caillerets and Pucelles. Not a bad combination! The wine has turned out beautifully in 2020, delivering fine aromatic complexity in its bouquet of apple, fresh lemon, white peach, chalky soil tones, citrus zest, pastry cream and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is crisp, focused and full-bodied, with a good core, impressive complexity and grip, lovely balance and a long, zesty and focused finish. This is very good juice.

2025-2060

93.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières"

The 2020 Puligny-Montrachet "Folatières" from Domaine Jean Chartron is an absolute classic example of this fine premier cru vineyard, offering plenty of depth on both the nose and palate. The bouquet delivers scents of white peach, pear, a beautiful base of limestone minerality, crème pâtissière, spring flowers and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, focused and zesty, with fine depth in the mid-palate, bright acids and lovely focus and balance on the long and complex finish. Fine juice, but built to blossom with a bit of time in the cellar. 2026-2055.

93+.

2020 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos de la Pucellen"

The 2020 vintage of Clos de la Pucelles from Jean-Michel is absolutely stunning this year. The wine delivers a complex and very refined aromatic constellation of pear, apple, a touch of nectarine, a gorgeous base of limestone minerality, fresh almond, lemon blossoms, incipient notes of pastry cream and very refined framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and properly reserved out of the blocks, with a great mid-palate core, superb mineral drive and cut, zesty acids and a very long, vibrant and complex finish. Great juice. 2026-2060

94+

2020 Puligny-Montrachet "Clos des Caillerets"

The 2020 Clos des Caillerets chez Chartron is even better! The stars must have aligned perfectly for this bottling, as I cannot recall ever tasting a more profound young vintage of this great cuvée. The bouquet soars from the glass in a complex blend of pear, apple, a stunningly complex base of chalky minerality, a touch of hazelnut, citrus zest, fresh nutmeg, vanillin oak and a pot pourri of citrus blossoms in the upper register. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, deep and very, very long, with laser-like focus, stunning backend mineral drive and a very, very long, seamless and electric finish. Utterly brilliant premier cru!

2026-2060

96.

2020 Corton-Charlemagne

The 2020 Corton-Charlemagne from Domaine Chartron is going to be an excellent wine. The bouquet is deep, young and vibrant, delivering scents of apple, pear, a beautiful base of stony limestone soil, spring flowers and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, focused and rock solid at the core, with an excellent girdle of acidity, fine mineral drive and cut and a long, balanced and racy finish. Fine, fine juice...

2030-2070.

94+.

2020 Bâtard-Montrachet

The 2020 Bâtard-Montrachet from Jean-Michel Chartron is another star of the vintage in the making. The beautifully pure and precise nose wafts from the glass in a mix of pear, fresh lemon, white peach, chalky soil tones, raw almond, citrus zest and stylish framing of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, bright and classy, with a great core of fruit, a proper sense of reserve out of the blocks, beautiful soil undertow, zesty acids and a very, very long, perfectly balanced and nascently complex finish. 2030-2070.

95+.

2020 Chevalier-Montrachet "Clos des Chevaliers"

As is always the case chez Chartron, the Clos des Chevaliers is again the finest wine in the cellar in 2020 and one of the best white wines produced in the Côte de Beaune in this vintage. The stunning bouquet delivers a constellation of pear, passion fruit, orange zest, incipient notes of crème pâtissière, a simply beautiful base of chalky soil tones, fresh almond, spring flowers and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, seamless and refined, with great depth at the core, vibrant acids, laser-like focus and a very, very long, electric and elegant finish. Magical white Burgundy.

2030-2080.

97.

Jean-Michel Chartron in his lab at the domaine in Puligny-Montrachet, which doubled as a tasting room for us this year.



2020 BURGUNDY: CLASSIC WINES FROM AN EXTREME SEASON



Despite the hot, dry conditions, 2020 Burgundy is characterized by “joyously” fresh, vibrant, classically styled wines, with consistent quality in the whites and many fine reds, says Sarah Marsh MW, as she introduces her coverage of the vintage based on her extensive tastings in the region in late 2021

Classic Burgundy from an extreme season. Who would have thought the hot and dry summer, in which

many completed the entire harvest in August, could possibly produce such a fresh and energetic style? (But the vintage is more consistent for white than for red.) These are joyous wines. Wines you want to dive into and drink. At the top end, serious wines, keepers. And best of all, in white and many a red, it's Burgundy with a delightful translucency to terroir.

Style

Whites

The style is ripe but brilliantly fresh. It is elegant, pure, and focused, with a sense of vitality and a touch of silk.

Although ripe, the wines from the Côte d'Or are rarely overly rich. Concentrated but precise. They are medium-bodied. The majority hover around 13% ABV, although the grands crus are normally nearer 14%. The texture is deliciously silky rather than richly viscous, but the slim texture certainly has light gloss. They can be quite sumptuous, but not heavy. They carry themselves with a certain grace. They are fresh; often very fresh, since there is good concentration of acidity, as well as of fruit. Sometimes it is slicing acidity, the tart sweetness of tartaric acid rather than the cool creaminess of lactic. Some of the more mineral styles have a sensation of sweet and salt on the finish. Those with drier, sapid, savory notes suggest high levels of dry extract. In 2019, wine from farther up the slopes showed the highest levels of dry extract and salty minerality, which provided balance for the ripe fruit, while in 2020 the dry extract combines with fresh acidity to make the wine truly fizzle.

THESE ARE JOYOUS WINES. AT THE TOP END, SERIOUS WINES. AND BEST OF ALL, IN WHITE AND MANY A RED, IT'S BURGUNDY WITH A DELIGHTFUL TRANSLUCENCY TO TERROIR

The fruit is generally citrus, as from lemon pith, grapefruit, or yuzu, through to candied citrus or white peach, with accompanying floral notes. But there are riper expressions. Here and there you will find golden peach, fragrant litchi, ginger, or caramelized orange. These are denser and richer but rarely show the flashy opulence of a hot season. In the whites from warm terroirs (thin, rocky soils with sunny exposures), the aromatics can be more exotic, and here the perfume entwines with a fresh and direct core. You will find progressively richer and more viscous wines from producers who harvested later, and the style farther south is softer. Mâconnais wines are fairly full-bodied, some a little soft, but the village wines are well balanced and not too heavy.

It's a stylish vintage for whites north of Beaune—not only those from Chablis or the Côte de Nuits, but also those from Savigny, Pernand-Vergelesses, and Corton, which typically are more savory. There are spicy apricot aromatics, but this group benefits from less weight, a slimmer texture, and more acidity, factors that highlight their sappy, stony character

and edge, which was somewhat cloaked in the “sweetness” of 2019.

Once again, Chardonnay shows its adaptability, shrugging off the hot season to produce classic wines. The style is more consistent than for red, which is partly explained by harvest size. Chardonnay yielded a near-average crop at 40–45hl/ha,

THESE ARE PROPER BURGUNDY WHITES. IT'S A TOP-QUALITY VINTAGE, AND IT'S MY SORT OF VINTAGE. IT'S UP THERE WITH 2014 FOR QUALITY AND CERTAINLY AS GOOD AS 2019

by a crunch to the tannin—in wines that have actually been destemmed. I can only suppose that some of the attractive, peppery spiciness of this vintage is linked to slightly underripe phenolics. I like this in moderation, but where there is also a high proportion of whole-bunch, it can dominate and detract.

The color of much Burgundian Pinot Noir this vintage is almost as dark and deep as that of Syrah elsewhere, but this is where the comparison should end.

QUALITY

Whites

It's classic Burgundy, but not in any pejorative way. These are proper Burgundy whites. It's a top-quality vintage that will appeal particularly strongly to those who love a precise style. The whites have depth and intensity.

They have balance. They express their terroir. What more can you ask for?

It is an exceptional vintage not only because its classic style is born of a dry and hot season, but because many of the wines are very good or great. It's my sort of vintage. It's up there with 2014 for quality and certainly as good as 2019. But beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Some will prefer 2019 for its depth and richness, while 2020 is sharper, more focused and energetic. Both are marvelous vintages for white Burgundy.

AGING POTENTIAL

The vintage for whites. You will really want to drink these fresh, slim, and joyous wines, and indeed you should tuck into them, but the top wines have excellent aging potential, with the prerequisite balance of fruit and acidity.

The village wines from Meursault, Chassagne, and Puligny, together with lighter premiers crus from less exalted villages, will benefit from a couple of years in bottle, drinking from late 2023/24 but with no hurry. I would start opening premiers crus from 2025, with the most structured premiers crus and the grands crus

THE HIGH ACIDITY WAS THE GREATEST SURPRISE OF THE VINTAGE, AND TOGETHER WITH HIGH CONCENTRATION, IT DEFINES THE VINTAGE STYLE. HOW WAS THIS ACIDITY POSSIBLE?

If you like mature white Burgundy, you will happily age top village wines and lighter premiers crus from the Côte d'Or for eight to ten years. (The same applies to Chablis Right Bank premiers crus and grands crus.) The top premiers and grands crus should mature gracefully over ten to 15 years and probably longer.

IN THE VINEYARD

To explain the quality and style of 2020, we need to backtrack to see what happened during the growing season, consider the fruit it produced, and how this was managed in the winery.

The growing cycle kicked off a month early. After a mild and humid winter, budbreak took place in mid-April, and early May saw the first flowering of Chardonnay on the Côte de Beaune.

The season was racing away, and by mid-July veraison began. Harvest in August seemed inevitable.

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

Aloxe-Corton and Pernand-Vergelesses

On the hill of Corton, it is another good year for red and white grands crus. The whites show plentiful savory concentration—from the compact, sapid, stony whites on the east face, exemplified by Chanson's Corton-Vergennes, to the straight wines from the cold northwest En Charlemagne, which range from light and nervy, to more concentrated and racy. Le Charlemagne is truly on form, stylish and compact (great with some En Charlemagne in the blend), and even south-facing Pougets, which gravitates from savory into candied citrus, is fresh and energetic. As for reds, you will notice a step back from the well-balanced opulence of 2019. Many show surprising elegance and restraint, notable examples including Château de Meursault Corton-Vergennes and Chandon de Briailles Clos du Roi. Overall, I was more impressed with the quality and consistency of Aloxe-Corton and Pernand-Vergelesses in 2019. Aloxe is ripe, but often pretty rustic. It's a mixed bag from Pernand-Vergelesses. There are some good whites, energetic, fresh, and less alcoholic than 2019, but those picked later are rich and exotic. Sous Frétille is very fruity, but I didn't taste one that wowed me. Caradeux produced some heavy whites, and the reds could be coarse. At the other extreme, there were some of the most refined Ile des Vergelesses I have ever tasted.

Savigny-lès-Beaune

White village wines are sappy and fresh, exemplified by Seguin-Manuel's Goudeles

PULIGNY HAS ALL THE ELEGANCE, POISE, AND MINERALITY OF A CLASSIC YEAR, WITH A COOL LINE OF ACIDITY AND A SHIMMERING TRANSLUCENCY TO THE TERROIR I HAVE NOT SEEN SINCE 2014

any village-level wines, which are a blend of parcels from around the village (there is only a smidgen above the premiers crus) benefit from the fresher, lighter style in 2020. The same applies to Chassagne, Regarding Grands Crus Chevalier is less overtly handsome; more restrained, more noble, like its namesake. Montrachet is seriously focused, deeply channeled, and splendidly persistent. The 2020 vintage showcases the very best of Puligny.

I ENJOYED THE FRESHNESS OF RULLY, ZESTY FROM THE COLDER TERROIR.

PULIGNY-MONTRACHET

DOMAINE JEAN CHARTRON
Jean-Michel Chartron remarked, "Despite the heterogeneity of the climate, we have a very fine and elegant vintage. One of the best for a decade. Very promising. Like 2014, but a bit more solar."

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Chardonnay

This is also labeled as Bourgogne Vieilles Vignes Chardonnay. Fresh citrusy aromas, then an inviting creamy texture on the lightly rounded palate, with plenty of lively freshness to finish. 2022-24. | **85**

Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Vieilles Vignes

From vineyards on both sides of the valley in Nantoux. A floral aroma, light, bright, and straight, with a hint of almond kernel. 2022-24. | **85**

Pernand-Vergelesses

Stony aroma. A lively balance of concentration and tension, with a savory character and pithy bite. Sappy wine. 2022-25. | **86-87**

Chassagne-Montrachet

Rich floral aroma. A fresh attack to the deep palate, underscored by striking sapidity. A firm and well-sustained finish for a village wine. 2024-28. | **90**

Puligny-Montrachet Les Enseignères

Rich and vigorous, with density and intensity. Woven with glossy minerality. An excellent village Puligny. 2024-28. | **90-91**

Puligny-Montrachet Premier Cru Clos du Cailleret (monopole)

Both rich and austere. A millefeuille of cold stone and warm fruit. Precisely edged and finely executed, with a striking, persistent, and cool finish. 2025-35 | **93**

Puligny-Montrachet Premier Cru Clos de la Pucelle

Richly floral aromas float into the silky and seductive palate. Full, rounded, and smooth. It would be opulent, were it not for the delightful airy and pure quality and the shimmering finish. 2025-32. | **95-96**

Puligny-Montrachet Premier Cru Les Folatières

Quite spicy. This attacks the palate with purpose. It has both richness and direction. Very well defined and balanced. Slightly muscular, with a firm, straight, and long finish. 2025-32. | **95**

St-Aubin Premier Cru Les Murgers des Dents du Chien

Vibrant and tightly compact. Firm and savory, with an austere, salty finish. Possibly the best example of this premier cru I tried in 2020. 2024-28. | **89-90**

Puligny-Montrachet Premier Cru Clos du Cailleret

Dark and spicy aroma. Sweetness on the attack leads to cool austerity on the mid-palate, where the tannins have some grip and snap. Ripe blackcurrant fruit contrasts with the salty minerals and a light herbal lift. Lively freshness and sapidity on the finish. 2024-30+. | **93**

Bourgogne Côte d'Or Pinot Noir

Super-fruity and juicy aroma; splashing and fresh, with a crunch of tannins. Very attractive. 2022-24. | **85**