

DOMAINE BERNARD MOREAU

Reviews of 2018 Vintage Reds

Burghound – Allen Meadows

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Alexandre Moreau told me that the 2018 “growing season was relatively straightforward to manage because even though the spring was very wet, the summer was dry and hot so there wasn’t much in the way of disease pressure. As we approached the harvest though maturities really spiked so it was critical to choose the picking dates with care. Also, despite the fact that we started on the 30th of August, which historically is super-early, I was still afraid that the fruit would be too ripe. Happily, as it turns out, that wasn’t the case but I confess to being very worried about it. While we could see that there would be very good yields, the volumes still surprised us as there was a lot of juice in the berries. This was particularly true in our old vines where good yields are between 35 and 38 hl/ha but we obtained 50 hl/ha and we’ve never seen that before. Overall, our yields in white were between 50 and 55 hl/ha though much less in pinot. We used around 25% whole clusters for the vinifications and had no problems with the fermentations finishing. In white however the alcoholics took a long time to finish, which isn’t a problem other than you have to watch things carefully. As to the wines, perhaps the most surprising thing about them is how well they transmit their respective *terroirs*. Very ripe years normally minimize that but the 2018s are really quite transparent.” (The Sorting Table, www.thesortingtable.com, CA, USA; O.W. Loeb, www.owloeb.com, Flint Wines, www.flintwines.com, Uncorked Ltd, www.uncorked.co.uk, all UK; Pearl of Burgundy, www.pearlofburgundy.com, Hong Kong and Macau).

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet Rouge Vieilles Vignes

(from 35+ year old vines) Notes of pepper and earth suffuse the ripe aromas of plum and dark currants. There is both good richness and volume to the acceptably concentrated medium weight flavors that terminate in a naturally sweet, round and delicious finale.

(87-89)/2023+

2018 Chassagne-Montrachet « Morgeot – La Cardeuse »

(a *monopole* of the domaine) This is aromatically similar to the old vines *cuvée* except that it’s just a bit more elegant. The supple and rounded middle weight flavors possess a more refined texture thanks to the finer-grained tannins shaping the dusty and notably firmer finish. **(88-91)/2026+**

2018 Volnay “Santenots”

Pretty, ripe and fresh aromas are comprised by notes of spice, poached plum and airy floral nuances. The supple and round medium-bodied flavors possess a velvety texture before concluding in a sappy and lightly mineral-inflected finale. The tannins are firm but fine and well-buffered and thus this should be approachable after only a few years but have no trouble rewarding a decade or so of cellaring.

(89-92)/2028+