

DOMAINE BERNARD MOREAU

Reviews of 2014 Vintage

Burghound – Issue 63

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Bernard Moreau's son Benoît told me that the 2014 "growing season was basically the exact opposite of that of 2013 in the sense that there was no hail, no disease pressure and no worries about obtaining sufficient ripeness levels. The early season was extremely dry, in fact we even had hydric stress in some sectors. July turned wet and cool but conditions recovered after the 15th of August and remained essentially perfect until we began picking on the 11th of September. The harvest was super clean with good ripeness levels and there was basically no sorting required. Potential alcohols were in the 12 to 12.7% range which for us is pretty much ideal with yields that varied between 35 and 50 hl/ha in white though they were lower in red. The wines, be they red or white, have excellent richness, flesh, concentration and tension plus they're already refreshing. Honestly, this is one of the best vintages that I have made in the 20 years that I've been doing this."

2014 Bourgogne

An ultra-fresh and agreeably well-layered nose features notes of green apple and citrus elements. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the saline-inflected flavors that possess an attractive texture before terminating in a delicious finish that is more complex than is typical for the category. Lovey and recommended. 87/2017+

2014 St. Aubin "En Remilly"

A discreet application of wood frames the refreshing nose of lemon rind, pear and mildly exotic fruit scents. There is both good intensity and minerality to the middle weight flavors that possess good mid-palate fat thanks to the abundant amount of dry extract that buffers the pliant acid spine on the delicious and balanced finale. 89/2018+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet

(from 3 separate lieux-dits). Notes of petrol and resin add breadth to the mostly white orchard fruit-scented nose though there are background floral nuances present as well. The seductively textured and solidly intense medium-bodied flavors possess good mid-palate concentration along with fine depth on the balanced and persistent finale. This is really quite good for a villages level Chassagne and worth checking out plus it should reward a few years of cellar time too. 89/2019+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos St. Jean"

A very mild touch of reduction doesn't really materially detract from the mostly floral and citrus aromas. As is usually the case with this wine there is a refined mouth feel to the elegant and pure middle weight flavors that possess good vibrancy and detail on the clean and dry but not austere finale. This will need to add depth to merit the top end of my predicted range but there is enough material that it could do so. (89-91)/2020+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Champ Gains"

Discreet wood easily allow the lemony aromas of pear, white flower and tangerine peel to be appreciated. There is a bit more volume and richness to the seductively textured medium-bodied flavors that also possess good intensity while delivering solid length on the moderately complex finale. This too will need to add a bit more depth to achieve the top end of the predicted range. (89-91)/2020+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Les Vergers"

Once again mild reduction renders the nose tough to clearly judge though the underlying fruit appears to be ripe. There is a lush, even opulent, texture to the notably rich, round and palate coating flavors that culminate in a delicious and borderline sweet finish that delivers both fine depth and length. Note that this succulent effort should drink well young. (89-92)/2019+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "Chenevottes"

Here the Pear William and floral-suffused nose is somewhat phenolic in character (think olive oil nuances) though it may not last as this character often dissipates with more time in barrel. There is outstanding richness to the full-bodied and relatively powerful flavors that coat the palate with sap, all wrapped in a lingering, complex and balanced finish where a touch of wood appears. My sense is that this will harmonize in time. (90-92)/2020+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet "La Maltroie"

This also displays a phenolic hint that doesn't detract from the super-fresh nose of citrus, white flower and petrol aromas. The racy and intense middle weight flavors possess fine volume as well though not the same power while delivering excellent length on the sleek and appealing complex finale. (90-92)/2020+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet “Morgeot”

(from the climats of La Cardeuse and Fairendes in a rough proportion of one-third to two-thirds). Once again there is just enough reduction to render an assessment of the nose difficult. That said I don’t expect it to last as there is really lovely freshness and verve to the opulent yet reasonably well-detailed big-bodied flavors that brim with dry extract and a taut muscularity on the utterly delicious and beautifully well-balanced finale. This is a Morgeot that is finer than what is typical for the appellation while retaining excellent size and weight. (90-93)/2021+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Caillerets”

Once again there is just enough reduction present to push the underlying fruit to the background. The racy, intense and beautifully well-delineated middle weight flavors exhibit plenty of minerality on the wonderfully refreshing, cool and restrained finale that offers outstanding depth and length. This notably refined and inviting effort should easily reward up to a decade of cellar time. (91-94)/2022+

2014 Chassagne-Montrachet “Les Grandes Ruchottes”

(from a .345 ha parcel of vines planted in 1939). An admirably cool yet ripe nose offers up notes of white peach, pear and green apple that are followed by impressively-scaled rich, full-bodied, powerful and palate staining broad-shouldered flavors that brim with dry extract. This beauty is perhaps a bit more muscular than usual though it by no means lacks for refinement and note that this too should age very well. (91-94)/2022+

2014 Bâtard-Montrachet

(from the Puligny side). The beautifully layered and ultra-floral inflected nose features notes of ripe white orchard fruit and citrus elements that are framed by a soft application of wood. The generous and extremely rich, full-bodied and impressively powerful flavors are certainly opulent but not heavy as there is ample acid support to maintain the balance on the admirably focused and seriously persistent, dry and clean backend. (92-94)/2024+

2014 Chevalier-Montrachet

A pungent nose consists only of wood and reduction today though again I suspect that this will have no trouble cleaning up. The mouth feel of the gorgeously intense and mineral-driven flavors is finer than that of the Bâtard though at the expense of a bit less power on the mouth coating and hugely long finish. This classy and very stylish effort is also clearly built-to-age and should thoroughly repay extended keeping if desired. (92-95)/2024+