

Domaine François Bertheau 2019

François Bertheau made some stunning wines in 2019, but the volumes were pitiful, so much so we only have a miniscule allocation to offer.

François Bertheau, who manages this 6.23 ha domaine (half of which is in villages level vineyards), said in his typically understated laconic manner that 2019 was “in certain respects like 2018 in that it was hot and dry as well as fairly easy to manage from a viticultural perspective. And I was faced with the same conundrum of deciding when to pick as the fruit was very ripe, acidities were falling while the sugars were climbing but we didn’t quite have the phenolic ripeness that I wanted so I chose to wait and didn’t start picking until the 20th of September. While I am happy with that decision, it cost even more yield and there wasn’t much to begin with, in fact, I brought in even less yield than in 2016, which basically means that we got killed.”

2019 Chambolle Musigny

£300 c/s IB – 1 case (6 bts per case)

(from Argillières, Guérippes and Fouchères). A ripe nose features notes of various dark berries along with plenty of spice and a floral top note. The sleek, delicious, supple and relatively forward middle weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the sneaky long finish. This is a quality Chambolle villages and worth a look.

89-91 Points, Burghound

2019 Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru

£390 c/s IB – 1 case (6 bts per case) - **SOLD OUT**

(a 1 ha blend of Groseilles, Baudes, Noirots and Gruenchers). A deft though not imperceptible application of wood sets off slightly riper aromas of red and blue pinot fruit, violet and a hint of exotic tea. There is both more volume and richness to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that are shaped by very fine-grained tannins on the more firmly structured finale. This is very Chambollesque in character and should age well if desired.

90-92 Points, Burghound

2019 Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru Charmes

£500 c/s IB – 1 case (6 bts per case)

(from a .66 ha parcel). Here too there is just enough wood present to comment upon framing the ripe, elegant and nicely layered aromas of plum, anise, sandalwood and an interesting whiff of dried tangerine peel. The succulent, round and seductively textured medium weight flavors exude a subtle minerality on the impressively persistent, balanced and solidly complex finale. While this could be enjoyed young, 8 to 10 years of bottle age should help to bring out even better depth. Worth considering.

91-93 Points, Burghound

2019 Chambolle Musigny 1er Cru Amoureuses

£1,625 c/s IB – 1 case (6 bts per case) - **SOLD OUT**

(from a .32 ha parcel). This is the first wine to display any appreciable reduction and it’s enough to blur the distinctions of the fruit and spice elements. Otherwise there is a finer texture to the concentrated and overtly mineral-inflected middle weight flavors that deliver excellent length on the slightly firmer finale. This lacy effort is a ballerina in a glass though one with sufficient structure and punch to warrant at least 10 years of cellaring and it may well reward more than that.

92-94 Points, Burghound

Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.

Delivery will be charged at cost.

Wines to be shipped autumn 2021.