

Domaine Boris Champy 2019

Our good friend Boris Champy decided to strike out on his own after leaving Domaine des Lambrays, and managed to get his hands on the biodynamic domaine of Didier Montchovet. This was the man that taught DRC, Leflaive and Leroy how to grow biodynamically...so the vines are in perfect condition. And for his debut vintage, Boris has made exquisite wines, much, much better than what the appellation would imply.

Boris is destined to become a superstar, so get your allocation now as these won't become easier to get. And at these prices you really can't go wrong.

Read on for more fascinating details about this domaine and the wines.

“What happened to Boris Champy after he was asked to “move on” from Domaine des Lambrays in 2019 having barely got his feet under the desk? The answer is this. I visited Champy at his winery in the Hautes-Côtes behind Pommard in the sleepy village of Nantoux on a Saturday morning when we had time to chat about his acquisition of Domaine Didier Montchovet. “Didier wanted to retire in 2020,” Champy tells me after a quick tour of the vines in Le Clou bathed in fiery autumnal hues. “One Christmas he invited his four children to his home to discuss the possibility of one of them taking over his domaine, giving them a year to consider. None of them were inclined to pursue the life of a vigneron and so he began discussions with [likeminded] biodynamic producers. But he feared that his vineyards, ostensibly his life’s work over 40 years, would simply be subsumed into the portfolio of a larger Volnay or Pommard producer. His project would just disappear. So, he was attracted to me as it could continue as an independent family concern.”

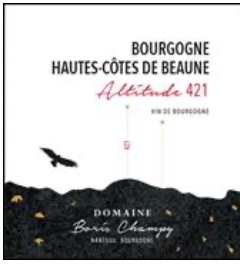
“In the meantime, do seek out Champy’s maiden vintage because there is something special brewing here. If you think my scores for his sublime Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune are generous then taste them, then we can discuss.”

Neal Martin

It was a perfect case of serendipity. Champy told me that he was in the middle of his career and had already worked for large producers such as Dominus, Louis Latour and Domaine des Lambrays, part of the LVMH luxury house. He wanted a change, a small enterprise under his own name and flushed with severance pay, was able to buy Domaine Montchovet without investors. Inspecting the vines in Le Clou, he explained how Didier Montchovet was one of the pioneers of biodynamic, certified in 1984 and he was subsequently visited by the likes of Anne-Claude Leflaive, Lalou Bize-Leroy and Aubert de Villaine who adopted the idea. As such, their status and ownership of world-famous vineyard clouded over the role that Montchovet played. To his chagrin, at wine fairs, consumers would flock to those aforementioned growers and ignored his modest Hautes-Côtes de Beaune. But what it does mean is that decades later, his vines are completely adapted to biodynamic viticulture and so, for example, his 161-49 rootstock shows absolutely no signs of degeneration compared to other producers.

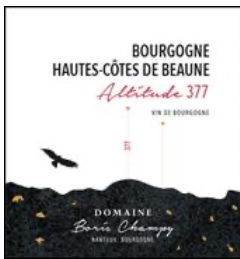
Champy has a small range that includes small parcels in Pommard and Beaune. However, it is the original parcels in the Hautes-Côtes de Beaune that frankly rewrote everything I thought possible. It is no exaggeration or hyperbole to say that they are equal to many Premier Crus that I tasted, his En Bignon was blessed with possibly the most satin-like texture that I encountered amongst hundreds of 2019s. Champy explained how these vineyards remain 3°C cooler than the Côte d’Or due to their altitude and with global warming, who is to say that they will not represent the prime locations for vines in decades to come? In the meantime, do seek out Champy’s maiden vintage because there is something special brewing here. If you think my scores for his sublime Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune are generous then taste them, then we can discuss.”

Neal Martin



2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Rouge, Altitude 421, "En Bignon"
£115 c/s In Bond – 15 cases available (6 bts per case) – **SOLD OUT**

The 2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "En Bignon" comes from vineyards on red clay topsoil over marl and a bedrock of Pierre de Nantoux limestone. The vines here are between forty and fifty years in age, aged in one-year-old 500-litre barrels that Champy bought in Lalande-de-Pomerol. It has a less outgoing and sensual nose than the "Le Clou", more saline and marine influence in style thanks to the bedrock. **The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, again, so satin-smooth in texture that takes your breath away. There are Vosne Premier Crus that would die for a mouthfeel like this. Long and tender on the finish with layers of red fruit, this is another stunning wine.**
91-93 Points, Neal Martin



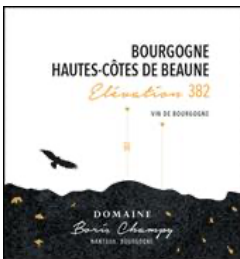
2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Rouge, Altitude 377, "Le Clou"
£120 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case) – **LAST FEW CASES REMAINING**
£130 c/s Magnums In Bond – 3 cases available (3 magnums per case, OWC)
£100 per Jeroboam (3L) – 2 Jeroboams available (OWC/1)

The 2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Le Clou" comes from the older vines in the titular vineyard that were planted at some point before 1953. This has a complex bouquet with vibrant red fruit, undergrowth and pressed rose petals. It was a little reduced but the quality still comes through. The palate is satin-like in texture on the entry, pitch perfect acidity, modest depth but just so crystalline towards the finish. **This is a quite brilliant wine from Boris Champy, a portent for what this oft overlooked region can and will achieve more regularly in the future.**
91-93 Points, Neal Martin



2019 Beaune 1er Cru Aux Coucheries
£215 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)
£225 c/s Magnums In Bond – 3 cases available (3 magnums per case, OWC)
£165 per Jeroboam (3L) – 2 Jeroboams available (OWC/1)

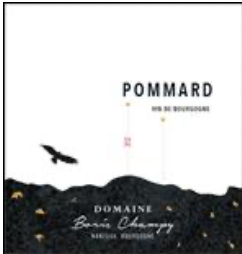
The 2019 Beaune Aux Coucheries 1er Cru comes from a parcel just below Grèves located in a cool microclimate. It is matured in one-year-old barrel from the less well-known Millard cooperage. It has a lively nose with plenty of red cherry and cranberry fruit, well defined and focused. A touch of orange rind emerges with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, white pepper and a touch of allspice on the elegant finish. **This is refined and classy.**
91-93 Points, Neal Martin



2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Blanc, Elévation 382, "Montagne de Cras"
@ £100 c/s In Bond – 15 cases available (6 bts per case)
@ £110 c/s Magnums In Bond – 3 cases available (3 magnums per case, OWC)
@ £90 per Jeroboam (3L) - 2 Jeroboams available (OWC/1)

The 2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Blanc "Elevation 382" comes from the lieu-dit of "Montagne de Cras" (this will be written on the label from the 2020 vintage). Raised in 30% new oak, it has a very attractive bouquet with white peach, Japanese yuzu and a lychee aroma that is quite Alsace in style. The palate is very well balanced with a tang of marmalade on the entry, fine depth and precision with a lightly spiced, lemon thyme and ginger tinged finish that lingers long in the mouth. **Superb.**
91 Points, Neal Martin

Following the huge success of this/our initial offer for the amazing debut vintage of Boris Champy, Boris has offered us a little extra stock of two new wines that are produced in much smaller volumes than his other Hautes-Côtes wines, the Beaune 1er Cru Les Vignes Franches and the Pommard En Boeuf, together with an entry level Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Altitude.



2019 Pommard, "En Boeuf"

@ £195 c/s IB – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

Starting from 2020, our Pommard will be named after the climat "En Boeuf" on the label. The plot is situated in Pommard's heights, in a well ventilated valley. It matches well to the search for freshness in the Domaine's plots. We believe that this type of plot location will be an advantage in the future because it is colder than in Pommard's plain.

The 2019 Pommard En Boeuf comes from a parcel next to the climat of Les Vignots on the higher contours of the appellation on deep red clay soils. It has a slightly savory bouquet with hints of dried blood infusing the black plum fruit, touches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannins that frame the lightly spiced red fruit. Elegant in style, almost Volnay-like towards the finish, this is a lovely Pommard that should drink well for 12-15 years.

90-92 Points, Neal Martin



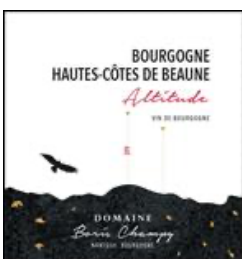
2019 Beaune 1er Cru Les Vignes Franches

@ £215 c/s IB – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

Our Vignes Franches plot size is modest: 21 ares but perfectly situated on Beaune's south coteau, which makes it very precocious in maturity. The vines have to draw their substance far into the ground because of the poor lime stone soil. As a result the wines are very fine. We are lucky to have stone piles around this plot that isolate and protect it.

The 2019 Beaune Les Vignes Franches 1er Cru is Champy's only parcel situated in a warmer microclimate. That tells on the nose that is more outgoing and richer than the Aux Coucheries, Tiptree strawberry jam mixed with iodine and violet scents. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, fleshy and generous with a sensual red plum and candied orange peel finish. This will be very seductive after 18-24 months in bottle.

90-92 Points, Neal Martin



2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Altitude

@ £100 c/s IB – 20 cases available (6 bts per case)

This wine results from the blending of 3 plots: - « En Bignon » and « Le Clou » from Nantoux - and « Pierres percées » from Saint Romain. The complexity and diversity of the different plots is expressed through the wine, which reveals the potential of the Hautes Cotes and the impact of altitude on the wine, which is why the "cuvée" is named after it.

The 2019 Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune "Altitude" is a blend of the two climats of "Le Clou" and "En Bignon". Due to be bottled in February, 2021, it has a clean and pure bouquet with perfumed iris petals aromas tincturing the blackberry and blueberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, fine acidity, good tension with a slightly sappy, saline finish. A joy from start to finish.

90-92 Points, Neal Martin

Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.

Wines available for delivery summer 2021.

Delivery will be charged at cost.