

Domaine Tortochot 2019

Domaine Tortochot has steadily been rising through the Gevrey-Chambertin ranks in the past decade. With four Grands Crus and five Premiers Crus, they have an enviable 11 to 12 hectare landholding and have been making sure they make the best of it. Chantal Tortochot, the fourth generation of the family running the Domaine, is increasingly sending wine abroad, depriving the French from top wines at great value. As more and more importers pick up her wines, the release prices are slowly marching towards their expected station. Chantal's father, Gabriel, used to sell most of his fruit to the famous Beaune négociant, Joseph Drouhin, so the Domaine had flown under the radar of the wine critics. This is all changing now that Chantal is in charge and their reputation spreads.

Secondary market activity is also rising, along with secondary prices. This is quickly becoming a domaine to watch, with full organic farming (since 1997 and certified since 2013) and great consulting from Sylvain Pataille. We have been working with Chantal for 5 years and are lucky to have good allocations of the whole range of wines, so you may want to grab an allocation before they inevitably dwindle!

2019 is another successful vintage at the Domaine, as the bright elegant wines are very well suited to these warmer weather vintages. The past few years have seen a reduction in new oak and more whole-bunch which have made the wines even more appealing. These all have great ageing potential and will reward cellaring.

Although this vintage has not yet been scored by the major critics, we will give you a preview of what's to come with these tasting notes for their 2018 Chambertin.

Neil Martin says *"The 2018 Chambertin Grand Cru has a very refined and elegant bouquet with pure red fruit mixed with sous-bois and wilted rose petals. The palate is very harmonious on the entry with a fine bead of acidity and caressing tannins. A touch of balsamic infuses the plush red fruit on the silky textured finish. It is not as sophisticated as a Rousseau Chambertin (heaven forbid!) however one could argue that this is cut from a similar cloth."* - and scores it 94 points.

Similarly, Burghound scores it 94 points (high praise from him) with this note: *"Here the wood treatment isn't subtle, though neither does it overshadow the very cool red and dark berry fruit aromas that are laced with plenty of earth, spice and pretty floral nuances. There is excellent power and muscle to the broad-shouldered flavors that brim with both dry extract and minerality on the super-saline finish that goes on and on and where the only nit is a touch of warmth. This is also very much built-to-age though it is somewhat less youthfully austere than it usually is. In two words, very promising."*

You will find a description of each vineyard below as well as their 2018 scores. We expect similar to higher scores for this vintage.

Production is 80% Villages / 10% 1er Cru / 10% Grand Cru so balanced orders are prioritized.

We have 4 Villages, 4 Premier Crus and 4 Grand Crus to offer (the quantity of Chambolle 1er Cru is too small to offer sadly).

Balanced orders are required but we do not mandate how you mix!

2019 Morey-St-Denis

£295 c/s In Bond – 5 cases available (12 bts per case)

A lightish cuvée with the typical Morey spiciness and savouriness, coming from three separate lieux dits in Morey St Denis: Aux Chesseaux, Clos des Ormes and Les Crais. Open and scented, this is a favourite among many especially due to the incredible value (note that it comes in cases of 12). A real burgundy drinkers Morey villages!

Burghound scored it 88 points in 2018: *"This is expressive and pretty with its array of red currant, spice and a floral note. The supple, round and delicious middle weight flavors that possess better volume and punch, all wrapped in a sneaky long finale. I like the balance, and this too should drink well early on."*

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Jeunes Rois'

£190 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

This cuvée of Gevrey villages is better than most villages that you will find. Always a favourite as more supple and inviting in the early years.

Burghound scored it 89 points in 2018: *"A slightly more deeply pitched nose blends both red and blue pinot fruit with those of lavender, spice and warm earth. The supple, delicious and more vibrant medium weight flavors possess better depth and focused power on the more obviously structured finale. This is a very good Gevrey villages and worth considering."*

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Les Corvées'

£190 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

This has no new oak used in the élevage, only barrels of one year. floral with moderate weight, but surprisingly long for a village and just incredible value!

Burghound scored it 89 points in 2018: *"A more restrained and equally deeply pitched nose combines notes of poached plum, dark currant, the sauvage and newly turned earth. Here too there is evident power to the bigger and more muscular medium-bodied flavors that brim with dry extract on the sneaky long finish. This isn't refined but offers plenty of Gevrey character and this too is worthy of consideration."*

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 'Champerrier Vieilles Vignes'

£190 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

This come from a small 0.46 ha parcel and gives structured long lasting villages wines.

Burghound scored it 90 points in 2018: *"This is the first wine to display any appreciable reduction and here it's enough to blur the distinctions of what appears to be very ripe fruit. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the very rich, concentrated and velvety flavors that coat the palate with dry extract that also buffers the firm, serious and youthfully austere finish that flashes a touch of rusticity. This is very 2018 in style but offers excellent depth and persistence. Patience strongly suggested."*

2019 Morey-St-Denis 1er Cru Aux Charmes

£280 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

From a small parcel of only .23ha, next to Mazoyeres, and always a very attractive floral nose.

Scored 91 from Burghound in 2018: *"Elegant and even airy aromas of ripe red currant, lavender and soft floral nuances are trimmed in just enough wood to mention. The delicious, intense and attractively textured medium weight flavors possess a caressing mid-palate that contrasts somewhat with the youthfully austere finish that is more structured than it usually is as this will need all of a decade to arrive at its peak though it should be reasonably approachable after only 5ish years. Good stuff and worth a look."*

2019 Morey-St-Denis 1er Cru Cuvée Renaissance

£270 c/s In Bond – 5 cases available (6 bts per case)

This is Chantal's baby who replanted some 1er Cru vineyards when she took over from her father a couple decades ago. As the vines age this is now showing lots of complexity, and Morey typicity. Don't miss.

Scored 91 points from Burghound in 2018: *"This isn't quite as aromatically elegant, but it is more complex with its blend of mostly red berries and spice elements that include more floral nuances. There is a bit more volume to the delicious and vibrant medium-bodied flavors that flash good power and punch on the more structured and saline-inflected finish. This too is really quite good though in this case it will need a few more years of cellaring before it will be approachable."*

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Les Champeaux

£295 c/s In Bond – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

Located in the centre of the Gevrey vineyard area, this vineyard always makes generous and inviting wines. They are usually wines that will drink in the mid-term, with ripe fruit but a real complexity and length.

Scored 92 points from Burghound in 2018: *"A spicier but even more restrained nose combines notes of red and dark currant fruit with those of rose lavender, violet and game. This is also quite ripe but there is a lovely sense of freshness to the concentrated, muscular and richer medium weight flavors that possess a seductive mouthfeel while delivering fine length on the relatively powerful and sappy finish. This is an interesting wine texturally as the mid-palate is plump and round yet the finish is serious and mildly austere. Patience again advised."*

2019 Gevrey-Chambertin 1er Cru Lavaux St Jacques

£295 c/s In Bond – 5 cases available (6 bts per case)

This is one of Gevrey's best Premier Cru vineyard and well know for making wines of great refinement. A cooler site which excels in these warm weather vintages, making wines of great long-term ageing potential.

This has more concentration than the Champeaux and received another 92 points from Burghound in 2018 *"A cooler, more restrained and more deeply pitched nose features notes of newly turned earth, underbrush, the savage and wild dark berries. There is excellent size, weight and muscle to the very rich yet well-detailed bigger-bodied flavors that display even better power on the youthfully austere and ever-so-mildly rustic finale. This is very LSJ in character and a wine to consider if you have the patience to cellar it for at least a decade."*

2019 Clos de Vougeot, Grand Cru

£700 c/s In Bond – 8 cases available (6 bts per case)

Tortochot own only 7 rows in this Grand Cru but this cuvée is beautiful with ripe black fruits, full and concentrated on the palate and very refined tannins. This has a long finish and is excellent value.

Burghound scored it 93 points in 2018 with this note: *"Discreet wood sets off reasonably fresh and ripe aromas of plum, various red berries, earth and a trace of underbrush character. The equally ripe, rich and full-bodied flavors possess an attractively textured mouthfeel thanks to the abundant sap that also buffers the bold, robust and powerful finish that displays impressive length. Once again, patience required as this is built to age for several decades though it's not so backward that it couldn't be approached after 8 to 10 years."*

2019 Charmes Chambertin, Grand Cru

£650 c/s In Bond – 7 cases available (6 bts per case)

Not as light as some Charmes made by other domaines. It is wonderfully perfumed, and exhibits the domaine's hallmark very fine tannins. Made with great balance but enough structure for the wine to age. Another bargain from Tortochot.

Again scored 93 points by Burghound in 2018: *"A cool, pure and equally fresh nose isn't quite so deeply pitched with plenty of earth and humus characters on the red currant, cassis and lavender-scented aromas that are also trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The mouthfeel is relatively refined thanks to the fine-grained tannins shaping the dense, vibrant and bigger-bodied flavors that conclude in a lingering and ever-so-mildly austere finale. This is lovely and very well-balanced plus it should also age extremely well."*

2019 Mazis Chambertin, Grand Cru

£825 c/s In Bond – 5 cases available (6 bts per case)

Another of the great Grand Cru of Gevrey to be found between Clos de Bèze and the village of Gevrey. This is known for making wines of long aging and is a great cuvée here at Tortochot, but with only 4 barrels made. It always has a beautiful nose of flowers and herbs and tobacco.

Burghound also scored it 93 points last year with this note: *"Moderate wood frames a much more sauvage-inflected nose that speaks mainly of red and dark currant with pungent earth and soft spice wisps. There is outstanding volume to the rich, enveloping and muscular large-scaled flavors that display excellent power and drive on the austere, serious and built-to-age finale. This is impressive and a wine that should amply reward long-term keeping."*

2019 Chambertin, Grand Cru

£950 c/s In Bond – 5 cases available (6 bts per case)

This vineyard is the jewel of the village, and arguably of the whole Côte-de-Nuits, and is the same here at Tortochot where they are able to make 5-7 barrels. They own almost 0.5 hectares of this greatest of Grand Cru, and sell it at a very fair price. This is a special wine of incredible texture and length. Don't miss.

Scored 94 points last year from Burghound and Neil Martin with this great note: *"The 2018 Chambertin Grand Cru has a very refined and elegant bouquet with pure red fruit mixed with sous-bois and wilted rose petals. The palate is very harmonious on the entry with a fine bead of acidity and caressing tannins. A touch of balsamic infuses the plush red fruit on the silky textured finish. It is not as sophisticated as a Rousseau Chambertin (heaven forbid!) however one could argue that this is cut from a similar cloth. NM "*

Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.

Delivery will be charged at cost.

Wines to be shipped Autumn 2021.