

en primeur & pre-release

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France - Burgundy

Burgundy 2019

BURGUNDY 2019

2019 is potentially an exceptional year for red Burgundies and a very good one for whites. In each case, despite being another "solaire" vintage, both colours exhibit more freshness and energy than in 2018. The reds in particular, whilst being intensely concentrated, have an attractive fluidity and many whites offer a delicious salinity and no lack of acidity. An explanation offered was that the smaller berries, with a deficit of juice, concentrated both sugars and acids. Volumes are also significantly down on last year.

Generalizing somewhat, the winter of 2018/19 was mild and dry. This caused the vines to push very early and leave them exposed to potential frost damage. This was duly realized at the beginning of April. Many villages to the north were spared altogether and some, like Meursault, Chassagne and Puligny were particularly impacted on their lower slopes. Others, including Saint-Aubin, most of the Côte Chalonnaise and the Maconnais were more severely affected. Several growers reported that spring felt more like autumn; with cold, wind and rain. As a result, flowering was drawn out and irregular and there was widespread coulure and millerandage, which had a negative impact on potential yields. This was further compounded by a hot and mostly dry July, August and first half of September, which dehydrated the grapes and further reduced volumes. Picking in September was completed in ideal conditions throughout. Growers were able to harvest impeccably healthy grapes according to their own individual philosophical and stylistic requirements.

Some points of note:-

- The Chardonnay vines were further advanced at the time of the April frosts, so were more adversely affected than Pinot Noir.
- Irregular flowering and drought caused very inconsistent ripening, even within a single parcel. This had to be carefully managed.
- Physiological ripeness generally arrived at around 13-14% natural, potential alcohol levels.
- Yields were very low due to a combination of frost, poor flowering conditions and drought.
- Once again, older vines, with a more developed root system have better withstood drought. Growers who plough between rows (all of ours) have also benefitted. This has the effect of cutting surface roots and forcing the vines to delve deeper for water and nutrients.
- There was widespread "triage" in the vines to remove all scorched grapes.
- The dry summer and excellent picking conditions meant that the harvested grapes exhibited an almost unprecedented level of health.
- The trend towards whole bunch fermentations with Pinot Noir continues. Climate change means that the vines' stems are consistently "riper" than previously. Proponents believe that stem inclusion delivers wines with greater freshness and energy than those which are destemmed.
- It was a very easy vintage to vinify, with extremely healthy fruit and an excellent balance between ripeness and acidity.
- Many growers are beginning to practice longer elevages prior to bottling their white wines. Wines which may appear quite clumsy and facile early in their development, can gain enormously in precision during extended maturation.
- Although the summer of 2019 was similarly torrid to 2018, acidities have been better preserved and the resulting wines are fresher in 2019. Millerandage (under-developed, smaller grapes) concentrates both sugar and acidity levels.

The following wines are offered, subject to remaining unsold, according to our normal terms of trade. Some of the wines are already in bottle, the remainder will be bottled between now and next August.

Terms and Conditions

Ordering - Please place your order by emailing neil@dunells.com

Offer - Subject to availability

Delivery - Mid/Late 2021

Prices - include Freight, Duty, GST & Storage until 30th April 2022

Allocation - We expect high demand for some of the wines and this demand may therefore outstrip supply. In such instances we tend to give precedence to those who have bought a particular wine before.

Payment - As per our normal T&Cs.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS EXCEPTED (E&OE)

ALAIN CHAVY

Alain Chavy has been joined by his son Corentin at this splendid Puligny domaine, created in 2003 when Alain and his brother Jean-Louis went their separate ways.

Alain has for long been one of the earliest to pick in the village but the recent, hot summers have obliged most of the other growers in Puligny to follow suit. In 2019 Alain completed the harvest in six days from 7th to 12th September. Yields were lower than in 2018 at 40 to 45 hl/ha and alcohol levels a little higher with similar levels of acidity. A fine range of well-structured, elegant wines that will develop well in bottle.

ALAIN CHAVY Puligny-Montrachet Les Charmes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-REL CdeB-Puligny-Montr. **£530.00**

A splendid climat on the Puligny-Meursault border adjoining Meursault 1er Cru Charmes. Alain is the major land-owner with 1.8 hectares of vines and has long vinified these grapes apart as they consistently give a wine close to premier cru quality. Intensely flavoured with fine breed and balance. Drink 2022-2025.

ALAIN GRAS

Alain told us "A very early year. We began picking on 5th September. We had a heatwave and a consequent lack of water. As a result, the concentration of the juice has made for wines of exceptional quality. We were also really surprised, bearing in mind the growing season, that they have such magnificent balance. The limestone soils (Saint-Romain has more limestone than any other commune in the Cote d'Or) have contributed a beautiful line of acidity."

ALAIN GRAS Saint-Romain Rouge 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE CdeB-Saint-Romain **£135.00**

BENJAMIN LEROUX

Having created a name for himself as régisseur (general manager) of Domaine du Comte Armand in Pommard, Benjamin Leroux established, with English backing, a small négociant business based in Beaune since 2007. The range is confined to the Côte d'Or, from Chassagne-Montrachet to Gevrey-Chambertin, with the intention of developing farming contracts or indeed purchasing vineyards in the future.

The possibilities are very exciting for this exceptionally talented vigneron. Benjamin is a master at delivering purity of fruit alongside a seamless texture in his wines which have only the subtlest influence of oak. One of Benjamin's favourite locations for white wine vineyards is the border between Auxey-Duresses and Meursault, which is where Les Vireuils can be found. Here the natural weight of Meursault is enhanced by the fresher minerality typical of the side valley of Auxey-Duresses.

THE 2019 VINTAGE

Although he now owns more than seven hectares of vineyards and he also trades as a négociant, Ben is very clear that he sees no distinction between the two roles and every vineyard and wine under his control is handled equally scrupulously and instinctively. Indeed, no differentiation is made on the label: all wines in this impressive range, covering the Côte d'Or from tip to toe over more than fifty appellations, are equal, and there is no better address at which to get the picture of each year's complexities. This year we tasted across two mornings, first whites then the reds. For Ben, this is a really homogenous vintage, brought in without stress although the yields are down, especially across the whites. For the reds, Ben offers the density of 2010, but with more palate definition, but with the focus and freshness of 2016 by way of comparison. Ben began the harvest on 6th September and suggests 2019 is a classic year in "the new normal" of warm dry summers and reliably ripe fruit.

After the bumper crop in 2018, this year represents a return to volume similar to 2015, albeit with differences between cuvées. You will therefore see that while some volumes remain unchanged from 2019, others may be dramatically smaller, simply due to Ben having produced much less of that particular cuvée. With over 50 different wines produced, it is very difficult to generalise.

BENJAMIN LEROUX Gevrey-Chambertin 2019 Case x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE CdeN-Gevrey-Chamb. **£220.00**

BENJAMIN LEROUX Meursault AOC 2019 Case x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE CdeB-Meursault **£220.00**

BENJAMIN LEROUX Savigny-les-Beaune 2019 Case x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE CdeB-Savigny-les-B. **£130.00**

BENJAMIN LEROUX Volnay 1er Cru Les Mitans 2019 Case x 6 Bottles - PRE-REL CdeB-Volnay **£299.00**

BERTRAND AMBROISE

Bertrand and Martine Ambroise head up a 21hectare domaine with much of the work now done by their son François and daughter Ludvine. The wines are well-known for their ability to age but

François has introduced additional freshness and elegance into the wines without losing any of their traditional depth and concentration. In 2019, the domaine harvested relatively late, benefitting from the welcome mid-September rain. The pinot noir was destemmed as usual and the wines were aged in oak for between 12 and 18 months.

BERTRAND AMBROISE Beaune 1er Cru Les Tuvilains 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles-PRE-REL CdeB-Beaune AOC **£399.00**

Picked a week before the Nuits Saint Georges vineyards, this is rich and opulent with sweeter fruit and a rounder texture. Drink 2024-2031.

BERTRAND AMBROISE Bourgogne Cote d'Or 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE Bourgogne AOC **£179.00**

From vines adjoining Bertrand's Nuits St Georges vineyards. Aged in a mixture of 400 litre barrels and larger foudres. Rich and aromatic, this is beautifully balanced and superb value. Drink 2022-2026.

BERTRAND AMBROISE Nuits Saint Georges Vieilles-Vignes 2019 CASEx12 Bot-PRE-REL CdeN-Nuits-St-George **£430.00**

This is 1er Cru quality, unsurprising since it comes from three plots of 70 year old vines just below premier cru Les Saint Georges. Dense and backward but with a core of intense, concentrated fruit, this requires patience but will age magnificently. Drink 2026-2035.

CHRISTIAN MOREAU

Chablis

Although their first commercial vintage was only in 2002, this is now one of the finest and most sought after domaines in Chablis.

6 hectares of Chablis Grand Cru and 5 hectares of Chablis 1er Cru Vaillon. These are wonderfully sited vineyards which for generations have been the personal property of the Moreau family. The family now have no connection or contract with the large and respected négociant of the same name. Christian, a larger than life personality, and his highly qualified oenologue son Fabien are making spectacular hand-crafted Chablis. All of their grapes are hand picked from vines which average 40-70 years old.

The village Chablis is completely vinified in stainless steel. The 1er and Grands Crus are predominantly vinified in stainless steel, but also see some barrel fermentation and maturation – but never more than 5% new oak. Clos des Hospices has been a family-owned monopole since 1904. It is situated on a lower, southerly exposure, with richer soils, giving a wine which is fuller and rounder. These are brilliant, bracing, classic, minerally Chablis. They are now certified as organic.

Quantities are limited and we regret that we cannot take on any new customers for these wines.

Fabien told us "2019 was another warm vintage after 2018. January was cold and February mild but both very dry (40% of normal rainfall). The dates of budbreak and flowering were normal. There was a small frost, but without damage and no hail. It is the second year without any damage!! The vines were very healthy, because of the dry summer throughout June, July and August. We had no rain between 12/06 and 15/07. The summer was warm, but not as hot as 2018 – but the vines suffered more in 2019, due to lack of rain. In 2018, there were lots of winter rains, which did not happen in 2019. Ripeness is greater in 2019, but so are acidity levels. Luckily, we had 13mm of rain in early September, which helped with the maturity and volume. We picked from the 12th to 20th September."

CHRISTIAN MOREAU Chablis AOC 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE

Chablis

£92.50

CHRISTIAN MOREAU Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE

Chablis

£345.00

DOMAINE DES PERDRIX

This domaine came into being in 1996 when Bernard Mugneret decided to retire and sell his estate. Bertrand Devillard purchased this estate the same year – nowadays, his children Amaury and Aurore run the estate. Following the retirement of Robert Vernizeau who had worked for the Devillards for over 30 years, the wine-making is now in the hands of Benjamin Roussof and oenologist Carole Briffox.

Winemaking has evolved over the years and estate style is one of rich, full-bodied wines packed with spices and delicious ripe fruit yet producing very elegant pinot noir.

'These are some of the best wines that I have seen Domaine des Perdrix make in many a vintage and they are worth checking out, not only for the quality reasons but because they typically sell at reasonable prices. I would observe that they are fashioned in a relatively modern style but offer very good quality within the context of that style.' - Allen Meadows - Burghound

DOMAINE DES PERDRIX Nuits Saint Georges 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE

CdeN-Nuits-St-George

£515.00

FERNAND & LAURENT PILLOT

Laurent told us "Apart from a few episodes of spring frost, the weather was clement for the vine, with a hot summer and picking in mid-September. We began to harvest on 10th September and continued, in perfect, sunshine, until 19th September. The grapes were magnificent and in perfect health. The yields were smaller than usual – down around 20-25%. The white wines have beautiful balance between richness and lovely tension on the finish. It is an excellent vintage for the reds also – with great colours, aromas, fruit and fine, elegant tannins. In summary, it was a small harvest, but with a high level of quality."

FERNAND & LAURENT PILLOT Saint-Aubin 1er Sentier du Clou 2019 CASE x 6 Bt-PRE-REL

CdeB-Saint-Aubin

£155.00

Perfectly sited 10 year old vines on the mid-slope above the village of Saint-Aubin on white clay/limestone soils. 25% new oak for 11 months.

FEUILLAT-JUILLOT

Françoise Feuillat-Juillot and now daughter Camille continue to make exemplary wines from her 16 hectares of prime vineyards in Montagny. Camille told us "There wasn't a lot of rain in the winter of 2018/19, but it was mild, which led to an early budding. There was then a cold spring which drew-out the flowering and caused lots of millerandage and very irregular development. From June to August, it was very hot and dry and we began picking exceptionally ripe fruit on 1st September. We were down about 50% in volume – our smallest vintage in 30 years. The wines are now in bottle. Despite their ripeness, there are very high levels of acidity and the wines show great freshness.". The 2019 vintage will be released later this year.

FEUILLAT-JUILLOT Montagny, Les Coeres 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE

Challonnaise-Montagny

A 4-hectare vineyard of 60-70, plus 90 year old vines, vinified and matured in 500 litre oak barrels – 20% new.

JEAN-LOUIS CHAVY

Jean-Louis harvested relatively early in 2019 starting on 9th September. The low yields (35 hl/ha overall due to frost in the lower-lying vineyards and dryness on the slopes) resulted in concentrated juice, higher in both sugar and acidity than in 2018. 20% of the crop is now vinified in 350 litre demi-muids from Meursault-based tonnellerie Damy giving a lighter touch of oak and keeping the wines fresher and more elegant.

JEAN-LOUIS CHAVY Puligny-Montrachet 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE

CdeB-Puligny-Montr.

£430.00

From a number of parcels in various sectors of the village. Rich and honeyed with masses of creamy fruit, a generous texture and fine minerality and bite on the finish. Can be enjoyed young but will gain in richness and complexity after a few years in bottle.

Drink 2021-2025.

LATOUR-GIRAUD

Jean-Pierre Latour said "2019 is characterized by precise aromas and power, indicating noticeable concentration. This richness is again found on the palate with an ample texture and noticeable volume, but with excellent balancing acidity. After a mild winter, the temperatures rose rapidly from the end of March, provoking an early budbreak. A few parcels at the bottom of the slope were frosted at the beginning of April. June saw a return to cold conditions, mid-flowering, which resulted in coulure and a potential loss of 50% of the crop. The end of June and July were very warm and without rain. This caused hydric stress, which continued until the beginning of August, when some welcome rains arrived to unblock the vegetation and accelerate the maturity. We began picking on 6th September and gathered very healthy, well ventilated grapes, with beautiful sugar levels and acidities."

LATOIR-GIRAUD Meursault, Cuvee Charles Maxime 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles - PRE-REL	CdeB-Meursault	£200.00
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A blend of Les Vireuils, Les Corbins and Les Pelles. Fermented and matured in barrel (around 1/3 new) for 15-16 months.

MICHEL MAGNIEN

Frédéric Magnien is the fifth generation to run the family estate. Since he took over in 1996, he has expanded the domaine from 4 to 18 hectares with the whole estate being farmed biodynamically since 2010. In 2019, 30-65% of the bunches were fermented whole and the crop was aged in a mixture of traditional 228 litre oak barrels, smaller 160 litre clay jars and larger 350 litre terracotta amphorae made especially for Frédéric by TAVA in Italy. The aim is to allow the wine to breathe in the same way as in an oak barrel but with no intrusive oak flavours.

MICHEL MAGNIEN Fixin Rouge 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE	CdeN-Fixin	£275.00
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From an undervalued appellation immediately to the north of Gevrey-Chambertin. Full-bodied, well-structured wine with firm but ripe tannins, masses of fruit and excellent acidity. Needs a few years to knit together but fine potential. Drink 2024-2029.

NATHALIE & GILLES FEVRE

Gilles and Nathalie Fèvre met at university where they both qualified as oenologists. Gilles is in charge of viticulture and Nathalie oversees vinification. Gilles' great grandfather began growing grapes and making wine in and around the village of Fontenay-Près-Chablis over a hundred years ago. They have now been joined by their daughter Julie – a qualified agricultural engineer and oenologue in her own right.

This is a wonderful 50 hectare domaine, all planted on Kimmeridgian limestone – 33 hectares of which are village Chablis. The 1er Cru Fourchaume is vinified in stainless steel tanks, as is 1er Cru Mont de Milieu – which also sees a touch of older oak barrels.

They are absolutely delicious, mouthwatering, benchmark examples of pure, incisive, concentrated wines. The gems of the domaine are the 2 hectare plot of 1er Cru Vaulorent (50 year old vines), at the southern tip of Fourchaume, which is 15% barrel fermented and borders Grand Cru Les Preuses – a magnificent 2.5 hectare holding of 55 year old vines, 70% vinified in stainless steel tanks and 30% in oak barrels.

These are exceptional wines from a top quality domaine of increasingly great repute.

Nathalie and Gilles have now been joined by their daughter Julie - a qualified agricultural engineer and oenologist in her own right. According to Julie "In 2019, the winter was mild, which awakened the vines early. We then had a spring which was more like autumn, with episodes of frost and cold, which resulted in coulure and millerandage. Summer was very hot and dry, but maturation was never blocked. The wines offer a beautiful balance between concentration supported by freshness. This year doesn't depart from the "magic of the 9s – offering beautiful freshness and great aromatic purity". The domaine is now working towards organic certification in 3 years' time.

NATHALIE & GILLES FEVRE Chablis 1er Cru Vaulorent 2019 Case x 6 Bottle-PRE-REL	Chablis	£132.50
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South-west facing vines, planted between 1966 and 1975, abutting Les Preuses, at the southern tip of Fourchaume. Vinified in 85% stainless steel tanks and 15% new oak barrels.

NATHALIE & GILLES FEVRE Chablis Vieilles Vignes 2019 Case x 6 Bottles - PRE-REL	Chablis	£87.50
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PAUL & MARIE JACQUESON

Founded by Henri Jacqueson in 1947, succeeded by his son Paul in 1972 and joined by Paul's daughter Marie in 2006, and more recently by his son Pierre, this domaine has long been recognised as one of the very best in the Côte Chalonnaise and its wines adorn the lists of many of the finest restaurants in France. They have 13 hectares of wonderfully sited vines, many of which are very old, and prune hard to reduce yields to around 35 hl/ha. They only work the vineyards manually, with very minimal vine treatments. They are one of very few producers in the village (together with Dureuil-Janthial) to hand-pick everything. Extremely proficient winemaking and judicious use of new oak (20% for whites and 25% for reds) make for beautifully crafted, ripe, intense, sensual wines which have the class to belie their origins.

Their Aligoté, planted in 1950, and Bouzeron, planted in 1930, are stunning examples of this increasingly appreciated variety. The delicious Rully Village Blanc is from three sites in Fromanges, La Barre and Chaponnières totalling 3 hectares. 1er Cru Margotée, planted in 2000 on limestone and white stones, has lovely tight, citrus flavours. 1er Cru Pucelle, planted in 1992, is on limestone and some brown clay and is a bit fuller and rounder. 1er Cru Grésigny, planted in 1950 on purer limestone, is tense and mineraly, but with good volume.

The reds are generous, sweet, pure and accessible. They give great pleasure on release but age extremely well – as recent bottles of 1985 Rully Cloux will attest. "Chaponnières" is on quite deep clay/limestone soils, planted in 1985, and has generous, crunchy fruit. 1er Cru Rully Les Cloux was planted in 1967 on 50% limestone, 50% light clay soils and gives an ample wine with great harmony. Rully 1er Cru Rouge Préaux is a 2.5 hectare site, just below Les Cloux, also planted in 1967. Mercurey 1er Cru Les Naugues was planted in 1962 on the best site in the village and has more structure and great class. 1er Cru Champs Martin is equally profound, facing due south it benefits from all day sunshine and always gives ripe, generous, concentrated wines.

Pierre Jacqueson told us "It was a very cold spring and there was devastating frost at the beginning of April, occasioning a loss of 70% to our premier cru whites. Flowering was difficult and rainy, which led to a lot of millerandage. The summer broke all records in terms of prolonged heat and drought (until 2020 that is!). In brief, all the circumstances combined for a very small crop of great concentration – both sugars and acidity. The whites were picked at 13-14 degrees natural and are rich, generous and full, with fine acidity. The reds are very fine, with aromas and flavours which recall 2018, but with more acidity. Their balance is remarkable."

PAUL & MARIE JACQUESON Rully 1er Cru, Gresigny 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles -PRE-REL	Challonnaise-Rully	£129.00
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PAUL & MARIE JACQUESON Rully 1er Cru, Margotees 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles-PRE-REL	Challonnaise-Rully	£130.00
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Planted in 1999. Limestone and white stones.

PAUL & MARIE JACQUESON Rully Blanc 2019 CASE x 6 Bottles -PRE-REL	Challonnaise-Rully	£104.00
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3 sites in Fromanges (25-year-old vines) and La Barre (35-year-old vines).

ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET

Brothers Nicolas and David Rossignol converted their family estate to biodynamic viticulture in 2004 and have since produced some of the most elegant wines of Gevrey with lovely purity of fruit and carefully extracted tannins. In 2019, they picked two weeks later than in 2018, from the 19th to 26th September, fermented with 50-60% whole bunches and extracted gently with minimal remontage and délestage and no pigeage at all.

ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET Gevrey-Chambertin Vieilles-Vignes 2019 CASEx12 Bot-PRE-REL	CdeN-Gevrey-Chamb.	£420.00
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45+ year old vines from three different sectors within the appellation: Craies, Village and Jouses. Lovely, ripe, red and black fruits on the nose and palate. Rich and generous. Drink 2024-2032.

V & F JOUARD (Vincent & Francois)

A fine estate, run by brothers Vincent & François Jouard, which is blessed with a glittering array of 1ers Crus. Previously, much of the crop was sold in bulk to the Beaune negociants but now the vast majority is bottled at the domaine with just the wines from young vines disposed of elsewhere. Yields were low in 2019 and the wines are rich and concentrated as a result. The 1ers Crus are aged in one third new oak barrels. After using a mixture of Vosges and Allier oak for many years, François has now decided to concentrate exclusively on the more refined, less powerful Allier oak barrels made for him by the local tonnellerie Chassin in Chagny.

V&F JOUARD Chassagne-Montrachet 1er Cru Les Fairendes 2019 CASE x 12 Bot-PRE-REL CdeB-Chassagne-Mont. **£535.00**

Les Fairendes is the finest part of this famous premier cru and makes a rich, honeyed wine but one that retains fine freshness and vitality. Lovely breed and class. Drink 2021-2024.

V&F JOUARD Chassagne-Montrachet Vieilles Vignes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-REL CdeB-Chassagne-Mont. **£420.00**

Selected from the domaine's oldest (50+ years) vines in three of their finest climats; Plante du Gaie, Clos Devant and Meix Goudard. Aged in 25% new oak, this is one of the very best village Chassagnes with fresh, ripe, honeyed fruit and crisp acidity. Drink 2021-2024.

VINCENT GIRARDIN

In May 2012, Vincent Girardin sold his business to Jean-Pierre Nié, the owner of Compagnie des Vins d'Autrefois in Beaune. Jean-Pierre, very sensibly, took the decision not only to retain Eric Germain (head winemaker) and Marco Caschera (sales and exports) but to make them substantial shareholders in the business.

As far as we are concerned, nothing has changed. They continue to work with the highest quality raw materials and Eric Germain continues to make the wines, as he has done for over fifteen years. Indeed, now that Eric is entirely free from other constraints, we have noticed the wines' gain in precision over the last few vintages! There is no bâtonnage and extended maturation in barrel, giving the white wines greater tension, elegance, energy and purity. In Christophe Marrin, they now, also, have a specialist red winemaker who will work under Eric. We are already seeing finer, more elegant red wines as a result.

The Bourgogne Blanc "Terroir Noble" comes from vines all situated in the communes of Puligny, Chassagne and Meursault. The Bourgogne Rouge "Terroir Noble" is exclusively from old vines around Volnay and Pommard. Both are excellent.

This is a small to medium sized negociant business of the highest quality. They have contracts to buy fruit from 85 hectares (55 of which are controlled and harvested entirely by the Girardin team) and have 13 hectares in ownership or fermage. They will continue to make further investments in their own vines and have recently made acquisitions in Volnay, Puligny, Meursault, Pommard and Auxey-Duresses.

Long-standing winemaker Eric Germain told us. "Two words come to mind - quality and rarity. Indeed, thanks to a clement, sunny summer, we were able to pick grapes of great quality, resulting in whites with lots of aromatic purity with good maturity. The characteristics of each terroir have been retained, with minerality from the rocky, stony soils and ripe fruit from the heavier soils. The health of the red grapes was also perfect, but the Pinot Noirs unfortunately suffered from hydric stress. The resulting wines therefore express very ripe characteristics, deep colours and very silky tannins. One can place 2019 in the footsteps of the "9" years, with lots of character and ripe fruit." 33 hectares (out of their total production from 80 hectares) are now owned or under their complete control – all of which they farm organically or biodynamically. The remainder benefit from extremely close, proactive relationships with the owners from whom they buy fruit. Their aim is to be 50% own vines. Half their production comprises Bourgogne Rouge, Bourgogne Blanc, Pouilly-Fuissé and Macon Fuissé and many of the top cuvees are made in very limited quantities.

VINCENT GIRARDIN Meursault, Vieilles- Vignes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-REL CdeB-Meursault **£426.00**

VINCENT GIRARDIN Pouilly-Fuisse Vieilles -Vignes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-REL Macon **£199.00**

VINCENT GIRARDIN Puligny-Montrachet V- Vignes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-REL CdeB-Puligny-Montr. **£490.00**

VINCENT GIRARDIN Saint-Aubin, Murgers Dents de Chien 2019 CASE x 12 Bt-PRE-REL CdeB-Saint-Aubin **£365.00**

VINCENT GIRARDIN Santenay Rouge 1er Cru Les Gravieres 2019 CASE x 12 Bot-PRE-REL CdeB-Santenay **£288.00**

VINCENT GIRARDIN Volnay, Vieilles-Vignes 2019 CASE x 12 Bottles - PRE-RELEASE CdeB-Volnay **£327.00**