



The Bourgogne Wines Cave de Prestige

A symbol of excellence and diversity for nearly 50 years

Beaune, 14 June 2018



The awards ceremony for those wines selected for the Bourgogne Wines Cave de Prestige was held this morning in Beaune, in the presence of François Labet, President of the Bourgogne Wine Board (BIVB). He hailed the quality of the wines, which is improving year-on-year, and reminded the winning producers that their wines will be representing the region over the next 12 months, through the BIVB's promotional and training activities in France and around the world.

An edition with lots of competition!

In 2018, of the 1,138 samples submitted, 218 *cuvées* were selected (68% from estates, 9% from cellars, and 23% from *négociants*), representing 19.2% of the original submissions. This high percentage is a very good indicator of the level of excellence of those wines picked.

The 2016 vintage was the most popular this year, accounting for 133 wines out of 218. Its quality is incontestable, given the scores obtained.

The BIVB buys all the wines selected for the Cave de Prestige. In 2018, almost 14,500 bottles were purchased, of which 2,500 were presented at the Cité du Vins in Bordeaux.

Culminating in the awards ceremony

During the prize-giving, François Labet praised the men and women who are **bringing the very best out of the unique *terroir* of the Bourgogne winegrowing region**. Diplomas are awarded in recognition of their work, their merit, and their expertise, and can be proudly displayed on the winery wall.

Among the 132 winning producers were:

- ▶ 18 estates, cellars, or *maisons* included for the first time in the Cave de Prestige
- ▶ 34 companies making a return for this edition

Some comments from producers selected for the first time:

Cave de Mazenay in Saint-Sernin-du-Plain - Bourgogne Côtes du Couchois, 2016

“It’s a real honor for us to be recognized by our peers. We believe it’s the most rigorous selection in the profession because there is no commercial pressure brought to bear. Seeing Bourgogne Côtes du Couchois wines - and our own wines in particular - being included in the Cave de Prestige is a real achievement and is the result of some very hard work over the long term and a move upmarket that helped us change our image to finally be recognized as a great Bourgogne wine.”

Domaine Alain Mathias in Epineuil - Bourgogne Epineuil, 2016

“We are very proud to be part of this year’s selection, especially as it involves an identified Bourgogne appellation whose reputation is still being established. 2016 was a demanding year for many of us, having to deal with the whims of the weather and adapt our vinification processes, and today’s result is recognition of all that hard work.”

Domaine Guy Simon et Fils in Marey-les-Fussey - Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits, 2015 (white)

“The estate’s Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits whites and reds were first presented for the 2006 edition. Since then, we have continued almost every year to submit samples to the tasting panel. 2018 will go down as a milestone for the estate because our Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits Chardonnay 2015 was judged to be a worthy ambassador of Bourgogne wines.”

Domaine Ponsard-Chevalier in Santenay - Maranges Premier Cru, Les Loyères, 2016

“We are very proud to have been selected for the Cave de Prestige for the first time. It is recognition of all the hard work and rigor we have unflinchingly demonstrated across every stage in production from vine to cellar, to ensure our wines offer the very best expression of the *terroir*.”

Domaine Didier Charton-Vachet in Saint-Vallerin - Montagny Premier Cru, Les Jardins, 2016

“We are delighted to have been selected for the BIVB’s Cave de Prestige. It’s true recognition to be selected by the union. It’s important to us to contribute to the image of the Bourgogne region and its wines.”

Domaine Changarnier in Monthélie - Monthélie Premier Cru, Le Clous, 2015

“This selection is a great opportunity to reach as many market influencers as possible, and is very beneficial for any winegrower and appellation, especially one like Monthélie, which is currently relatively little-known.”

Domaine Pierre Amiot in Morey-Saint-Denis – 4 x Morey-Saint-Denis Premier Cru, 2016”

“This selection is genuine recognition. We believe it has real value in the world of Bourgogne wines. We were pleasantly surprised because our four different Morey-Saint-Denis Premier Cru were selected, and it’s a great opportunity to showcase our appellation. We are curious to see what the effects will be for the estate, especially as we have been focusing a great deal on marketing over the past five years.”

Domaine des Pérelles in Chânes - Saint-Véran, Le Clos, 2015

“We are delighted and it’s an honor for us to be selected with our first presentation for the BIVB’s Cave de Prestige du BIVB.”



The purpose of the Cave de Prestige



For the past 47 years, the BIVB has been selecting wines to represent the Bourgogne region across France and around the world, through its various promotional and training activities. These wines are also used by the École des Vins de Bourgogne.

The winning bottles can now sport the BIVB label, a symbol of excellence and recognized expertise. This palette of wines embodies the diversity of the Bourgogne winegrowing region, from Chablis to Mâcon.



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- **The wines tasted**

The producers and winegrowers of the Bourgogne region **can present any appellations**, from *Régionale* to *Grand Cru*.

Within the framework of its Plan Bourgogne 2020, **the BIVB is particularly focused on promoting entry-level wines** (such as *Régionale* appellations, including identified Bourgogne and Mâcon-plus-village-name wines).

The Cave de Prestige reflects the diversity of Bourgogne because a great many of its **84 appellations are represented**.

- **An extremely rigorous selection**

The *cuvées* submitted by the producers **are first tasted blind by a jury of experts** (professionals from the industry, winegrowers, enologists, and sommeliers, etc.).

Those that obtain a **minimum score of 16/20**, corresponding to “an exceptional wine”, are then sent before a “super jury” for a further blind tasting. This tasting will determine whether or not they are included in the Cave de Prestige for the year.

This **competition, with its tough selection process**, has only **one criteria: Quality**.

- **A wonderful way to promote wine**

The wines selected go on to **represent Bourgogne during various events organized by the BIVB in France and abroad, for market influencers**, including wine store owners, sommeliers, restaurateurs, journalists, and sometimes **the general public**. These may include training seminars, press trips, tasting courses at the École des Vins de Bourgogne, lunches, dinners with food and wine pairings, gastronomic gala dinners, and visits from famous names.

#BIVBCavePrestige

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