

2020: A remarkable vintage for Bourgogne wines

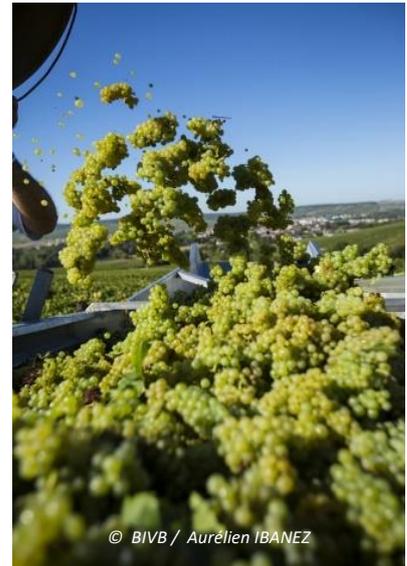
Bourgogne, 21 November 2021

2020 will remain in the memory for many reasons. Not only was it the year of lockdowns and pandemic; it was also a unique and very satisfactory vintage for producers and merchants in Bourgogne.

This vintage was an historically early one, from budburst right through to harvest. The hot and sunny weather also ensured the grapes were bursting with health on the vines.

Even more surprisingly, tasting has confirmed that despite the high temperatures and almost constant drought conditions, in addition to their rich aromas, the wines are also revealing a freshness that is as unexpected as it is remarkable. Fans of Bourgogne wine will be delighted.

With volumes of around 1.56 million hectoliters, the 2020 vintage is sure to enjoy a great future.



White wines

■ Chablis and Grand Auxerrois

The 2020 vintage will go down in history thanks to the richness of its wines and their wonderful ageing potential. On the nose, they offer lovely intensity, marked by pleasant aromas of ripe fruit. Notes of apricot and candied citrus mingle with tropical fruit and lime blossom. In the mouth, they are broad and perfectly balanced, maintaining a pleasant freshness and a very enjoyable mineral side.

■ Côte de Beaune

Perfectly ripe grapes combined with an acidity that stood up to the hot weather has resulted in concentrated and superbly balanced wines. The nose evokes yellow and tropical fruit like mango, grapefruit, orange, and bergamot, and they offer impressive length in the mouth. This vintage will be hailed on dining tables in three to five years' time, and even later for the *Village Premier Cru* and *Grand Cru* wines.

■ Côte Chalonnaise

Like their neighbors on the Côte de Beaune, these wines offer great aromatic richness. Beautifully ripe grapes thanks to a very hot and dry summer have led to notes of very ripe citrus, pineapple, apricot, and acacia flower. On the palate, they are well-balanced; fresh, but dense and opulent. On the finish, they are indulgent, marked by pleasant mineral notes, with the promise of great ageing potential.

■ Mâconnais

Remarkable freshness and exemplary concentration mean these wines have all the potential to reach great heights. On the nose, citrus, yellow fruit, pineapple, and dried fruits combine with intense floral notes. In the mouth, they are rounded and smooth, with excellent acidity and an indulgent finish. 2020 is a vintage that will leave its mark.

Red wines

■ Grand Auxerrois

After two exceptional years, the Grand Auxerrois continues its upward momentum, offering high-quality wines to fans of this lesser-known region. The heat and the drought over the growth cycle have resulted in intensely colored and aromatic wines. On the nose, they offer notes of dark berries, licorice, and spices. While in the mouth, they are very structured with great concentration. The tannins are still closed and tight, promising indisputable keeping potential.

■ Côte de Nuits

It is tough to imagine a better vintage than the 2020 on the Côte de Nuits. The colors are deep red, the uncommonly intense nose is marked by richly fruity notes. Black cherry, blackberry, blackcurrant, cocoa, and licorice mingle with delicate scents of rose, peony, violet and sweet spice. On the tongue, they demonstrate impressive concentration whilst remaining extremely smooth. With great body and a magnificent tannic structure, these wines are promised a dazzling future.



■ Côte de Beaune

Here again, these are wines that are close to perfection. With wonderful color, aromatic intensity, and quality, they are truly exemplary. On the nose, they offer an explosion of summer and hedgerow fruits, spices, and blond tobacco, while in the mouth, they are perfectly balanced. These wines are fleshy and full-bodied, with a tasty finish and surprising length. Like all wines from great vintages, they will reveal their qualities in a few years' time. 2020 is a vintage of superlatives the like of which is rarely seen.

■ Côte Chalonnaise

Here too, superlatives are the order of the day. The wines are very rich, with notes of black berries, cherry kernels, gingerbread, violet, and licorice. On the palate, they are full-bodied yet yielding, marked by a wonderfully fresh feel and silky, tightly-woven tannins. 2020 is a vintage for ageing and is rightfully up there amongst the greats.

This press release only offers a general snapshot.

Because each wine and each winemaker is unique, wines need to be tasted individually before being characterized.

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