



Decanter

Tasting **Domaine Belleville** and **Les Parcelles de Saulx** wines **Vintage 2018**

Andy Howard MW, June 2020





Rully, La Créé, 2018 90 Points

Quite rich on the palate with a very clean flavour. Good weight. Some attractive spicy notes on both nose and palate – quite a lot of oak evident at the moment. Fresh and pure with interesting notes of agrumes on the palate. Just a little short on the finish but this is an elegant example of Rully.

Mercurey, Les Villeranges, 2018 92 Points

Pale yellow colour with some green tints. Refined with a good mineral edge, this has clean, crisp apple fruit character. Oak is restrained and well-balanced. An under-stated Mercurey with a lot of finesse.



Rully, 1^{er} Cru La Fosse, 2018 91 Points

Creamy, ripe, weighty. Oak and spice evident. Nicely made but, like a few other white wines, the power and density tend to dominate at the moment. Could do with a little more restraint and finesse. Typical Rully sunny characters but would be nice to have a bit more lift.



Rully, 1^{er} Cru La Pucelle, 2018 **93 Points**

A powerful, rich and spicy example of white 1er Cru Rully, this retains good freshness with a lovely 'bite' of acidity on the palate. Plenty of spicy oak compliments the stoned fruit and greengage characters. Although 14% this is a very enjoyable example which can be drunk young, or aged several years.

Santenay, Les Hâtes, 2018 **90 Points**

Bright red cherry on the nose, touch of spice. Hints of menthol. Soft red cherry fruits, a touch of bitterness but this works very well with the ripe fruit characters. Nice tannins. Quite soft and generous on the palate with nicely integrated oak. Not complicated but very enjoyable.



Rully, Chaponnière, 2018 **91 Points**

Slightly stemmy red fruit character on nose and palate. Acidity rather pronounced at the moment. A lighter style of wine with medium-concentration. Good, deep, purple colour. Palate is soft with purity of fruit flavour. Some damson fruits plus raspberry – an attractive, fresh Rully which is a good example at village level.



Rully, 1^{er} Cru Chapitre, 2018 **93 Points**

Another nice example of the Rully AOP, and worthy of 1er Cru status. Smooth, ripe fruit, luscious character on the palate. Smooth tannins, acidity quite pronounced but as expected in a young wine. Attractive flavours of ripe dark plum fruit, very nicely integrated, subdued, oak. The nose is very reticent and subdued – this will evolve with more maturation.

Mercurey, Les Perrières, 2018 **90 Points**

Deep colour, youthful, red and black fruits – bilberry/raspberry/damson. Nice weight, firm (but ripe) tannins with a good texture. Attractive nose with some violet, floral characters. Touch of spice on the palate. Medium body but just lacks a little concentration on the mid-palate.



Mercurey, 1^{er} Cru Clos l'Eveque, 2018 **93 Points**

Much more structure and concentration than Les Perrières. Focused palate with firm, ripe tannins and crisp acidity – this needs a lot more time. Very clean on the palate and nose – dark-berry fruit and under-stated oak. A fine example of 1^{er} Cru Rully which will age very well.



Saint Romain, Les Perrières, 2018 **90 Points**

Typical aromas and flavours of Saint Romain. Attractive hints of orange blossom and spicy, woody notes. Rich and weighty on the palate, this is slightly dominant and the wine could do with a little more restraint. Voluptuous, powerful, lacks a little finesse.

Meursault, Les Narvaux, 2018 **92 Points**

Classic Meursault on the nose with hints of orange, some floral notes and oak in evidence. The palate has good purity of flavour and enough acidity but the palate is a little heavier than expected. A weighty Meursault Narvaux – this lacks a little of the ‘nervosité’ and elegance I was anticipating. Still a nice example but needs a bit more refinement.



Meursault, 1^{er} Cru Les Poruzots, 2018 **95 Points**

A fine 1er Cru Meursault, showing restraint, purity and concentration. This is too young at the moment but will develop into a very fine bottle after 2-3 years maturation. Lime/orange zest on the palate with nutty, honeyed notes. Although there is lots of power here, the wine has excellent freshness to balance. A great combination of flavour, acidity, oak and terroir.



Saint Aubin, 1^{er} Cru Sur Gamay, 2018 **92 Points**

Complex, weighty, spicy. Crisp acidity, can feel the mineral element here. 2018 ripeness is a little to the fore at the moment. A voluptuous, ripe, example of St Aubin 1er Cru. Acidity is medium, could do with a bit more acidity to prolong longer-term ageing. Very clean, pure and fresh, just a little heavier than expected.

Aloxe Corton, Les Boutières, 2018 **90 Points**

A typical example of Aloxe Corton. Spicy, quite robust, firm tannins blended with dark cherry and bramble fruits. Attractive nose, oak is well-balanced and not excessive. Will benefit from further bottle maturation to soften tannins and acidity.



Gevrey Chambertin, Les Evocelles, 2018 **91 Points**

Surprisingly pale in colour, and showing some early evolution. Soft and rounded on the palate with red currant and raspberry fruit character. Lots of spice and acidity on the palate – acidity a little too evident at the moment. Maybe the wine needs a bit more time to settle after bottling. Has a chemical character on both nose and palate – a touch of tar and menthol. Typical Gevrey tannic structure – quite firm and coarse.



Nuits Saint Georges 1^{er} Cru Les Murgers 2018 **95 Points**

Deep, impenetrable colour. Beautifully smooth on the palate with fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity to keep everything in balance. Dark cherry and blueberry fruit on the palate. Subdued, subtle oak. There is a fresh touch of spice and black pepper on the palate which leads to a very long finish. An extremely elegant Nuits Saint Georges with lots of potential.

Volnay 1^{er} Cru Les Mitans, 2018 **93 Points**

Very youthful. Medium colour in the glass. Fine and elegant, restrained and with a very good balance between ripeness of fruit, under-stated oak, purity of flavour and length. Plenty of spice on the palate. Oak is hardly evident here. Very good floral notes on nose. Raspberry and blueberry characters. Needs 3 years but will be very good.



Chapelle Chambertin Grand Cru, 2018 **96 Points**

Not particularly deeply coloured but there is great finesse in the glass. The palate is full of sweet, concentrated red fruits, with excellent acidity and ripe tannins. Oak is evident but very nicely balanced. There is a lovely warmth to the fruit here which combines beautifully with the typical Gevrey tannins. Needs several years but a very good example of Chapelle with a great deal of finesse and ageing potential.