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Chair of Judges

The Wine Merchant Top 100



WHITE WINE TROPHY

DOMAINE BELLEVILLE RULLY LA CRÉE

BURGUNDY, FRANCE 2022

As one of the judges said after an impressive dry white flight during this year's judging day, "Chardonnay from other places is all well and good, but when it's at the top of its game, you just can't beat white Burgundy". It's a style that remains a firm favourite for wine merchant customers — and, as the superb winner of this year's White Wine Trophy proves, if you look in the right places, it can still offer what our judges called "great pound-for-pound value".

The right place in this case is the La Crée premier cru in the Côte Chalonnaise village of Rully, where the stony clay-limestone soil yields, in the hands of Domaine Belleville in the sunny 2022 vintage, a classic white Burgundian mix of richness of flavour and incisive acidity.

Aged for 12 months in 25% new barriques, it's "instantly delightful and well balanced", the judges said. "A rich, nutty and creamy texture paired with ripe fruit and a savoury, smoky edge."

