

Bookham Wine Club: Monday April 09 2018

'Burgundy on a Budget' with Angela Bawtree

White Wines

Domaine Henri Naudin-Ferrand Bourgogne Aligoté 2015, 12% (£17.99 Butlers Wine Cellar)

Aligoté is Burgundy's 'other' white grape variety, seen as the poor relation of Chardonnay and often described as thin and acidic. In the right hands, however, Aligoté's naturally high acidity is perfectly balanced with ripeness of fruit. This wine is produced in the Hautes Côtes district of the Côte d'Or in a village reputed for being the cradle of Aligoté. Sustainable production and minimal intervention is used to allow the full expression of Aligoté with its fresh apple and pear fruit, savoury yeastiness and rich creamy texture.

Chatel-Buis Montagny 2014, 13% (£9.74 Waitrose)

In the southern part of the Côte Chalonnaise, the Chardonnay wines of Montagny generally show a little more body and slightly higher acidity than other Chalonnaise appellations, given the marginally warmer southerly position and high level of limestone in the soils. This wine, made by a quality-oriented co-operative, shows the typical Montagny floral aromas, along with freshness on the palate, ripe grapefruit, stone fruits and a rich long finish.

Olivier Leflaive Cuvée Oncle Vincent, Bourgogne 2015, 13% (£18 The Wine Society)

A quasi Puligny-Montrachet from Olivier Leflaive, who produces this wine as a personal tribute to the patron saint of winegrowers St Vincent and to his legendary uncle of the same name. The Chardonnay grapes are harvested from old vines planted just below Puligny itself. Barrel fermentation and aging brings buttery and creamy richness to the fresh and intense pear and peach fruit.

Red Wines

Domaine Sérol Côte Roannaise Eclat de Granite 2016, 12% (£9.95 The Wine Society)

This wine, from a little-known appellation less than 50 miles from Beaujolais, is made by the leading family estate in Côte Roannaise. The grapes are grown on gentle slopes of granite-based soils, where Gamay does well. Reminiscent of a Beaujolais Villages, this is a refreshingly vibrant style with violet floral aromas, spicy strawberry and pomegranate fruit and silky tannins.

Domaine Sylvain Pataille Bourgogne Rouge 2014, 12% (£14.50 The Wine Society)

Perfumed, bright red cherry fruit with savoury forest floor undertones underpin this elegant but mouth-filling Pinot Noir. Sylvain Pataille is a very well-respected producer based in Marsannay, the most northern wine village in the Côte de Nuits near Dijon. The grapes, produced organically and biodynamically, come from low-yielding 60-year-old vines.

Morey St Denis Vieilles Vignes Remi Jeanniard 2014, 13% (£22 Butlers Wine Cellar)

From a tiny family-owned estate in Morey Saint-Denis, a commune located in the heart of the Côte de Nuits, this wine uses grapes from old vines which give natural concentration. Remi Jeanniard employs sustainable production methods and meticulous attention to detail to produce well-structured and elegant wines with aging potential. This wine shows the typical juicy red fruit and high acidity of Burgundian Pinot Noir with earthy, savoury complexity.