

**Drinking in 2025**

We reveal what wine lovers will be going crazy for this year

**Tasted & rated**

82 Rosé NV Champagnes  
51 Australian Grenaches

**Plus** Muscadet top picks

❖ What to drink with plant-based food ❖ Quebec travel

# Decanter

PASSIONATE ABOUT WINE SINCE 1975

JANUARY 2025

NEW  
VINTAGE  
**BURGUNDY**  
**2023**  
65 STARBUYS



# WINES of the YEAR

Our editors pick their  
65 standouts



# 50 TOP 2023 BURGUNDIES: THE CURTIS PICK

Wines are listed in order of white then red, then by scores, then alphabetically by producer. The 2023 wines are bottled from January 2025, hence prices, stockists and alcohols are generally not yet finalised. Contact specialist merchants for allocations or to enquire about en primeur tastings. The following 50 wines were Charles Curtis MW's selection for particular quality and value among the 1,600-plus 2023 wines he tasted. If we have awarded 'Top value' to a wine here, it's based on our predicted pricing



## VINTAGE PREVIEW: BURGUNDY 2023

great elegance and a chiselled character that one wouldn't necessarily expect in 2023, with lovely freshness and length. The grapes from a few Pinot Gris and Pinot Blanc vines are added to the Chardonnay from the domaine's 3ha monopole, before fermentation in tank and ageing in cask. Impressive quality, depth and character. **Drink** 2027-2045

### Roc des Boutires, Pouilly-Fuissé 1er Cru Aux Bouthières 94

Superb balance between citrus and mineral tension and a riper, denser style. This is an impressively elegant wine that will charm on release but doesn't lack the structure for ageing, even in the sultry conditions of 2023. The grapes are from two parcels of 70-year-old, southeast-facing vines totalling 0.66ha in chalky clay soils at 260m elevation in the village of Pouilly. **Drink** 2024-2045

### ① Joseph Drouhin, Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches 94

Exemplifying the vintage's potential for delicious whites, this has lush, forward aromas of Mirabelle plums and quince with hints of marzipan, butter and a suggestion of stylishly smoky reduction. It's supple and dense, but the richness is kept in balance and the extract carries the wine to a lingering finish. Parts of the 7ha vineyard have been replanted; the old vines that produce this bottling have delivered a wine of great character. **Drink** 2024-2045



### Saumaize-Michelin, Pouilly-Fuissé 1er Cru Sur la Roche 94

**TOP VALUE** Arrestingly concentrated aromas of passion fruit and grapefruit are accented with flinty mineral notes and hints of white flowers. It all flows through to the palate, where the texture positively vibrates with tension, yet lingers gracefully on the finish. The secret is the location; the domaine has 1.65ha of vines aged between 40 and 100 years, planted at the top of the Roche de Vergisson at 360m-390m elevation. Produced using biodynamic methods. **Drink** 2028-2050

### Michel Bouzereau, Les Grands Charrons Meursault 94

This delicious village-level Meursault shows the potential at every level, with its elegant aromas of ripe pear, hazelnut and acacia flowers. The texture is silky and elegant, with nothing heavy or overly rich – it's perhaps slightly less honeyed than the 2022. The grapes are from a holding of more than 2ha; two-thirds of the vines are situated at the top of the slope by Le Tesson, and one third are planted in the richer soils at the base. **Drink** 2025-2035

### Alvina Pernot, Rue de Bois Bourgogne Côte d'Or 93

£20 (1b) Latimer Vintners  
**TOP VALUE** Crisp aromas of lemon peel and flint with hints of reduction and creamy lees ageing. Even in a hot year like 2023, this wine has an incisive freshness and impressive length. Although classed as Bourgogne, the grapes are from a domaine-owned parcel within the village limits of Puligny. They're picked early and pressed in a mechanical press to give this clean, straight interpretation that's very much in the style of a classic Puligny-Montrachet. **Drink** 2025-2040

### ① Maison Chanzy, Bouzeron Clos de la Fortune Monopole 93

The expressive, nuanced grapefruit and tarragon aromas of this charming wine are classic for the Aligoté grape, but the wine offers more than many with its creamy texture and balanced acidity. The grapes are from the thin limestone soils of the 2.1ha monopole, of which 0.6ha are old vines. Grapes were fermented in equal parts small casks (10% new), large foudres and stainless steel tanks. **Drink** 2025-2035

### Domaine Belleville, Rully 1er Cru Chapitre 92

This loveable, easy-to-drink wine seduces with ripe pear, white blossoms and spice aromas. Lush and approachable, it has a rich feel and acidity that's balanced at best. The grapes are from the base of the slope in the limestone soils

of this premier cru bordering the village. They are gently pressed before fermentation and ageing in cask, 25% new. A style suited to early drinking. **Drink** 2025-2035

### Sylvain Pataille, Fleur de Pinot Marsamay Rosé 94

This complex, serious wine boasts a lovely copper colour and captivating aromas of candied red fruit, rose petals and exotic spices touched with smoke. The texture is silky and very fine, yet there is impressive substance and tension. Pinot Noir and a dollop of Pinot Beurot (Pinot Gris) are both used; half goes directly to the press, the rest macerated on the skins before pressing. The result is aged for two years in large oak uprights, to deliver one of the world's great rosé wines. **Drink** 2025-2035

### ① Armand Rousseau, Chambertin-Clos de Bèze Grand Cru 99

**RED WINE OF THE VINTAGE** Among the greatest Burgundy wines of the 2023 vintage. Seductively ripe black cherry and plum aromas are adorned with hints of rose petals, spice and earth. A delightful fruit sweetness on the palate is balanced by the wine's firm structure. Tasted from barrel, the tannins are prominent, but according to Cyrielle Rousseau, these are wood tannins that will integrate with time. Immediately appealing even now, yet it has the fruit, balance and substance to age for decades. **Drink** 2028-2090

### ① Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, La Tâche Grand Cru Monopole 99

**TOP PRODUCER** A voluptuous, sensual wine: immense, fruit-forward aromas of mulberry, plum and pomegranate suffused with seductive floral notes and hints of liquorice. The texture is powerful yet lush – the French speak of 'enrobed' tannins that are present but not astringent. Bertrand de Villaine says: 'It always reminds me of layers that need to be peeled back to arrive at the essence.' This wine is supremely good. It's more open at this point than Romanée-Conti, yet it has the substance, fruit and structure to live for 60 years or more. **Drink** 2028-2090

### ① Comte Liger-Belair, La Romanée Grand Cru 98

**TOP PRODUCER** This is surely one of the world's pre-eminent Pinot Noirs, boasting an almost bewildering profusion of fruit aromas ranging from blackberry to cherry and pomegranate, along with hints of ginger, woodsmoke and gunflint. There is impressive density and concentration and an immeasurably long finish. When asked what makes this wine so good, Louis-Michel Liger-Belair replies: 'I put my mojo in it.' Indeed, he did. **Drink** 2028-2090