

TASTING & MATCHING - HIDDEN BURGUNDY

The bargain hunters

Burgundy is not the first place you'd normally go looking for value money. Clinton Cawood joined a team of hopeful sommeliers as they went truffling for bargains from the côtes.

Wines from the more prestigious and well-known Burgundian appellations can sell for prices that border on the absurd, with their capacity for ageing driving their prices even higher.

But it's not all Grand Cru vineyards out there, with the vast majority of Burgundy selling at more reasonable levels. Not only are these more standard wines the staple of every wine list, but if you get them right there's no question that some of these cheaper offerings can bear a striking similarity to their more expensive neighbours at a fraction of the cost.

We gathered together a series of wines from lesser-known producers or less prestigious appellations in search of cheaper Burgundies that really do over-deliver.

How it works: We asked numbers of suppliers to submit Burgundian Wines from lesser-known appellations that represented value- not necessarily just wines that were cheap. We received a fairly even number of red and white submissions. Wines were tasted blind, with reds and whites arranged in order of price. The result are presented using a genuine 100-point scale, so marks below 50 were quite possible.

Wines were marked as follows:

*90-100 astounding
80-89 excellent
70-79 very good
60-69 good*

Results**Red****67 – Domaine Bernard Moreau, Bourgogne Rouge 2007,**

« Youthful, with bright red fruit flavours. Elegant and juicy, this wine is very easy to drink” AG “Lots of poached strawberries on the nose. Juicy on the palate – this would be lovely chilled” JK