

Highly Recommended 90-94pts



Domaine Boillot 2014

Decanter average score: 92/100pts
Individual judges' scores: Stephen Brook 90
Jason Haynes 93 Jasper Morris MW 92

£18 Fine & Rare

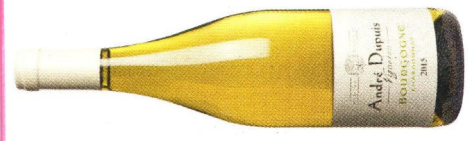
A broad apple compote nose, with a slight tropical mango tone that is discreet but energetic. Certainly enough pear fruit to cope with the oak, and a touch of lime too. Full of energy. **Drink** 2016-2018 **Alcohol** 12.5%



Jean-Claude Boisset, Les Ursulines 2014 92 SB 92 JH 92 JM 92

£15.95 Liberty Wines, Vin Cognito

A pleasant attack of apple, lime and talcum powder on the nose. Noticeably more weight than expected with great persistence and some tension on the back palate that is zesty, precise and mineral. **Drink** 2016-2017 **Alc** 12.5%



André Dupuis 2015

91 SB 90 JH 89 JM 93

£16.75 New Generation McKinley

Spicy, vibrant pear aromas that have pungency and freshness and a touch of yeast; not exuberant but nicely poised. An assertive style that will mellow with a year in bottle.

Drink 2017-2020 **Alc** 12.5%



Cave de Vire, Tanners White Burgundy 2015 91 SB 91 JH 89 JM 92

£11.30 Tanners

A well-balanced, energetic white Burgundy, whose pear and apricot fruit stretches across the consistent palate stylishly. There is a plumpness here, leading to a charming and zesty spiced finish. **Drink** 2016-2019 **Alc** 13%

'While quality has gone up, prices have not moved in the same way so these wines represent really good value'

Jason Haynes



Domaine François Carillon, Chardonnay 2014

91 SB 90 JH 92 JM 91

£18.95 Corney & Barrow, Vin Cognito

Nose a little closed at first, followed by some vivacious fresh fruit and engaging savoury flavours. A concoction of lemon and lime that has satisfying concentration and some drive.

Drink 2016-2017 **Alc** 13%



Collovray Et Terrier, Berrys' Own Selection White Burgundy 2015 90 SB 90 JH 90 JM 90

£11.95 Berry Bros & Rudd

There is a personality to this wine. The nose is fairly grown-up and suggests ripeness; the palate is rich and solid with some acidic structure. Not for the faint-hearted but a success in its chosen style. **Drink** 2016-2017 **Alc** 13.5%



Domaine Chapuis 2015

90 SB 90 JH 91 JM 90

£17 New Generation McKinley

Piquant green apple and white peach nose with a whiff of oak. Plenty of character here, some perky acidity and a little bacon fat from the ripeness, but there is class to the fruit too.

Drink 2017-2019 **Alc** 12.5%



Hervé Kerlann, Château de Laborde, Cuvée H 2015

90 SB 91 JH 89 JM 90

N/A UK www.maisonkerlann.com

A slightly cumbersome nose, but upfront and attractive fruit. This is full-bodied and robust with pure white fruit and pleasing underlying acidity. A sound white Burgundy – does what it says on the tin. **Drink** 2017-2019 **Alc** 13%



Joseph Drouhin, Laforet 2014 90 SB 90 JH 90 JM 90

£15 Justerini & Brooks, The Secret Cellar

The bouquet bursts with ripe fruit and flowers; plenty of sunshine here. The apple compote and citrus palate has a sleek acidity promising more to come. A little heat behind it, but elegant nonetheless. **Drink** 2016-2017 **Alc** 13%



Michel Bouzereau et Fils 2014

90 SB 91 JH 89 JM 90

£14.50-£24 City Wine Collection, Lay & Wheeler, Montrachet Fine Wine

This Bourgogne Blanc has weight and presence with its delicately smoky apple nose. There is balance running through it: harmonious in a less ripe style, yet fine-boned and persistent. **Drink** 2016-2017 **Alc** 12.5% ➤

Recommended 86-89pts

Wine	Score	SB	JH	JM	Tasting note	Alc	Drink	Price	Stockists
Clotilde Davenne 2015	89	91	88	87	A muted and toasty nose; the fruit needs coaxing out a bit. But there is a charming, piquant attack that is assertive and looking for harmony.	13%	2016-2019	£11.45	From Vineyards Direct, Sommelier's Choice
Domaine Romy, Terra Vitis 2015	89	89	89	89	Full-bodied, forthright style with a flash of spice and some tropical fruit. Broad and lush with ample fruit and a rich finish. One for early drinking.	13%	2016-2017	£13	City Wine Collection, Hatch Mansfield
Domaine Roux Père et Fils, Les Murelles 2014	89	85	90	91	The nose expresses a lot of oak which overlays the fruit. There is strident acidity that is a touch green but it is still youthful and has plenty of reserve.	12.5%	2016	£12.75	Bibendum, Winedirect
Patrick Javillier, Oligocène 2014	89	89	89	89	An understated apple nose that starts quietly but certainly has more to offer with lively sweet fruit and balancing acidity which is stylish.	13%	2017-2019	£21.60-£25	Bancroft, City Wine Collection, H2Vin, OW Loeb & Co
Pierre Naigeon, Les Demoiselles 2014	89	90	89	87	Discreetly oaked pear nose leading onto a palate of stone fruit and white pepper lending it decent weight with a bacon and tobacco finish.	13%	2016-2018	POA	Top Selection
A&A Devillard, Le Renard 2015	88	89	88	87	A little backward on the nose though decent lemon verbena character emerges on the palate. Straightforward and easygoing, but robust.	13%	2016-2017	£17.50	Montrachet Fine Wines
Château du Châtelard, Vieilles Vignes 2015	88	92	87	86	Sweet apricot nose with oak that is a mite too prevalent. Striking acidity but there's enough fruit to balance it and the finish shows some minerality.	13%	2016-2018	POA	Cockburn & Campbell
Domaine Bader-Mimeur, Dessous Les Mues 2014	88	86	88	89	Fresh herbal aromas with smoky oak too. An accessible, four-square style that has a lovely finish and an unusual nettle tone at the end.	13%	2016-2017	N/A UK	www.bader-mimeur.com
Domaine Chanson 2014	88	90	86	89	A rich and juicy style of white Burgundy that has drive and tension from the acidity and an exuberance of fruit. A charming wine to drink now.	12.5%	2016-2018	£16	Concept Fine Wine, Noble Green, Champagne Co
Domaine Chavy-Chouet, Les Femelottes 2015	88	90	85	90	One of the more intense examples. Toasty, biscuity oak dominates the fruit on the nose but this has presence and substance with some bite on the finish.	13%	2017-2020	£17	Roberson Wine
Domaine de la Verpaille 2015	88	87	90	86	A leafy, phenolic nose with a sprightly apple note. Enjoyable, straightforward example with some richness and youthful bitterness. Needs more time.	12.5%	2017-2018	N/A UK	www.domainedelaverpaille.com
Domaine des Verchères 2015	88	86	88	89	A decent mouthful of fruit that is rounded and accessible - this shows the sunny summer. It's rich and solid, not nuanced, but engaging with bite.	13%	2016-2018	£16.75	New Generation McKinley
Domaine Faiveley 2014	88	85	88	90	The nose is a little shy and tightly knit but it shows promise with fresh herbs. The palate evolves well in the glass with fleshy fruit, if a little austere now.	13%	2017-2019	£18	Circle Wine, DBM Wines, EWGA, Justerini & Brooks, The Drinks Shop, Upton upon Severn Wines, Whole Foods
Domaine Hudelot Baillet 2014	88	88	88	88	Sweet and sour tone of piquant lime fruit on the attack plus some coconut oak. A lean style but has enough structure to make it enticing.	13%	2016-2017	£14.50-£18	Christopher Piper, Roberson Wine
Domaine Olivier Leflaive, Les Sétilles 2014	88	87	90	87	A lean citrus and sweet fruit nose; this is judiciously oaked, with some fine extract. This could develop well if it integrates further.	12.5%	2016-2018	£15.95	Corney & Barrow, Vin Cognito
Louis Jadot, Couvent de Jacobins 2014	88	89	88	88	Lime and tropical fruit aromas that are piquant and lively with a certain nervous intensity, filling out quite nicely on the back palate.	12.5%	2016-2017	£15.40	widely available via Hatch Mansfield
Louis Latour 2014	88	87	88	89	Rich, upfront fruit that is grapey in a Muscat-like way; has enchanting appeal. More exuberant than classy, but a nice wine which holds up well.	13%	2016-2017	POA	Louis Latour Agencies
Louis Latour, Cuvée Latour 2014	88	86	87	91	Elegant aromatics leading to a simple palate that offers charming, polished fruit and a little greenness despite its persistence.	13%	2016-2017	POA	Louis Latour Agencies
Moillard 2014	88	89	85	89	Fresh and crisp, this has a welcome lightness of touch and purity of fruit. Plenty of energy on the palate, but needs drinking soon.	13%	2016-2017	£12	Robb Bros
Olivier Morin, Constance, Chitry 2015	88	88	87	88	Apples and greengages aplenty; lively with great zest, if a little locked-in and austere. Fruit and acidity are balanced, and there is a long, pungent finish.	12.5%	2016	N/A UK	www.olivier-morin.fr
Vignerons des Terres Secrètes 2015	88	91	86	88	Fresh fruit salad aromas, although a bit closed. A concentrated style for Bourgogne Blanc that is linear and long, with a tang at the finish.	12.5%	2016-2017	£16	Montrachet Fine Wines
Averys, Fine White Burgundy 2014	87	92	85	84	A little reductive on the nose now, with toasty oak adding some richness. This is very lean and tight with lime and gunflint flavours.	13%	2016-2019	£14.99	Averys
Bouchard Aîné & Fils, Les Vendangeurs 2014	87	88	85	87	Plump and broad for a 2014 - has welcome breadth of fruit. Perhaps slightly anonymous but the fruit carries through nicely to the finish.	12.5%	2016-2017	£12.70	Matthew Clark
Bouchard Père & Fils, La Vignée 2015	87	88	85	88	Retentive apple compote and stone fruit nose with a tangy, concentrated palate. Not the most intense or persistent, but an agreeable example.	12.5%	2016-2017	£11.95	Fells, Winedirect
Cave de Lugny, Les Chenaudières 2015	87	84	87	90	Apricot fruit that is rich and broad in keeping with the vintage, with musky tones and racy acidity. Solid but a little leaden perhaps.	13%	2016-2017	£9.99	LHP Wines, Majestic
Domaine Changarnier, Les Dressoles 2014	87	85	88	88	A bouquet full of smoke and lime, which is suave and concentrated. There is more to deliver on the palate as the oak is a little raw, with a strident finish.	13%	2017-2020	POA	Carte Blanche
Fougeray de Beauclair 2014	87	89	86	87	A delicate, charming apple nose that is a little on the tart side but leads to a bright, graceful finish.	13%	2016-2017	£17.99	Alexander Wines, Ex-Cellar

Recommended (continued) 86-89pts

Wine	Score	SB	JH	JM	Tasting note	Alc	Drink	Price	Stockists
François Martenot, Parfum de Vignes 2015	87	88	87	85	Fresh and nutty on the nose, this has more weight than elegance. Luckily the fine acidity lifts the mid-palate and gives a tangy finish.	12.5%	2016-2017	N/A UK	+33 3 80 24 70 07
Gabriel d'Ardhuy 2015	87	88	84	88	Ripe pears and apricots flit around the nose, which translate onto the palate nicely with a bite of acidity. Little finesse or nuance but this should come.	13%	2017-2019	N/A UK	www.ardhuy.com
Jaffelin, Les Chapitres 2014	87	89	87	86	This style needs drinking now as the palate shows signs of early oxidation. But there is a firm breadth of fruit and spicy liveliness to see it through.	12.5%	2016-2017	POA	Hayward Bros
Jean Loron, Chardonnay Vinifié en Fûts de Chêne 2015	87	84	92	86	Clean and juicy, yet the wood shows through the fruit. This is oaky yet perfectly drinkable and has some interesting ripe fruit on the palate.	13%	2016-2017	£11.99	Hayward Bros
Louis Jadot, Château des Jacques, Clos de Loyse 2014	87	90	86	85	A fresh, limpid attack that is livelier than the nose, with a light phenolic tone and even a chewiness on the finish, giving character and persistence.	13%	2016-2017	£15.65	Constantine Stores, Hoult, Partridges, Philglas & Swiggo, The Shenfield Wine Co, Taurus Wines, Wimbledon Wine Cellars
Maison Ambroise 2014	87	82	87	92	A tasty touch of crème anglaise. Even though the acidity is a little green, this fills the mouth and finishes on a fresh wave of energetic fruit.	13%	2016-2017	£18	Montrachet Fine Wine
Paul Pernot 2014	87	88	86	88	Fresh notes of flowers and greengages with yeasty undertones. A bit sweet and easy, but it is balanced and likeable.	13%	2017-2020	£16.50	L'Assemblage
Vignerons de Mancey, Les Cadoles 2015	87	87	89	86	The vibrancy of the apple fruit is a little subdued by the wood, but this is otherwise bright, suave and lively with some piquancy.	13%	2016-2017	£15.75	New Generation McKinley
Waitrose 2015	87	86	87	88	Already rich and ripe in style and could get quite honeyed with age. A touch of fresh coconut alongside spring flowers. Might suit spicy food.	13.5%	2016-2017	£5.99	Waitrose
Albert Bichot, Secret de Famille 2014	86	90	86	83	Delicately oaky nose and ripe citrus fruit. Lean attack, fresh and bracing, with sleek and stylish acidity. Has finesse and persistence.	12.5%	2016-2017	POA	WP Wines
Butterfield 2014	86	84	87	87	Subdued apricot nose leading to a lean palate with some high, taut acidity and a fair amount of persistence on the finish.	12%	2016-2017	N/A UK	www.butterfieldwine.com
Collin Bourisset 2014	86	86	86	87	Citrus, apple and clove aromas with fierce acidity that's just about integrated even though it is a touch hard on the finish.	13%	2016-2017	£15	Hatch Mansfield
Domaine Perroud, Chiras 2014	86	85	85	88	There is a significant sweetness of fruit here balanced by tangy acidity. This might have more to come later but is perfectly quaffable now.	13%	2016-2018	N/A UK	www.robert-perroud.com
Domaine Borgeot, Clos de la Carbonnade 2014	86	84	85	90	The nose is a tad confectioned but the palate, if a bit angular, grows nicely alongside the biting acidity.	13%	2017-2020	£15.95	Jeroboams
Domaine Dujac 2014	86	87	86	85	There is more fruit on the palate than on the oaky nose, but this adds a pleasing toastiness to the tightly knit palate.	13%	2016-2018	POA	Justerini & Brooks, OW Loeb & Co
Domaine Moreau 2014	86	82	85	86	Stylish, toasty nose, though the fruit remains under oak. Fresh, lively and limpid palate; zesty and has a light touch. Pretty wine with clarity of fruit.	13%	2016-2017	£17.25	New Generation McKinley
Jean Loron, Chardonnay 2015	86	87	89	89	Retentive bruised apple nose. Soft and rather flabby palate which is broad and lacking some lift and freshness. Fades fast on the finish.	13%	2016-2018	£10.99	Hayward Bros
Maison Champy 2014	86	87	89	83	Lime comes forth on the nose and blends into the sweet and sour palate that is beginning to evolve, ending on quite a lean finish.	13%	2016-2017	POA	Gerrard Seel
Maison Champy, Signature 2014	86	87	86	85	Spry, oaky nose that has charm and an essence of lime cordial melding onto a straw and toast palate. The oak is still looking to harmonise fully.	12.5%	2016-2019	POA	Gerrard Seel
Olivier Morin, Olympe, Chitry 2014	86	87	85	85	Light green pea and lime nose with some chalky elements and a toasty touch on the palate that is short, but clean.	12.5%	2016	N/A UK	www.olivier-morin.fr
Patriarche Père et Fils 2015	86	84	87	88	A lot of ripeness here with some bacon fat notes amid the apple fruit. It has freshness and simplicity and retains a certain liveliness.	13%	2016-2018	£10.99-£12.99	Castelnau Wine Agencies, The Solent Cellar

Commended 83-85pts

Château de Puligny-Montrachet, Clos du Château 2014 85, 12.5%, 2016, £20.60 Berry Bros & Rudd
 Château de Sully, Duchesse de Magenta 2010 85, 12.5%, 2016-2019, N/A UK www.chateaudesully.com
 Domaine Dupré 2015 85, 12.5%, 2016-2017, £17 New Generation McKinley
 Fougerey de Beaclair, L'Ormechal 2014 85, 13%, 2016-2017, £16.69 Alexander Wines, Ex-Cellar
 Henri Darnat, La Jumalie 2014 85, 13%, 2016-2017, £12.99-£19 Sommelier Wine Co, Waitrose
 Maison deux Montille 2012 85, 12.5%, 2016-2017, £22.50 Armit Wines
 Patrick Javillier, Des Forgets 2014 85, 13%, 2016-2019, £19.50 Bancroft, OW Loeb & Co
 Ropiteau Frères 2014 85, 12.5%, 2016-2017, N/A UK www.caves-ropiteau.com
 Simonnet-Febvre, Chitry 2014 85, 13%, 2016-2017, N/A UK www.simonnet-febvre.com
 Simonnet-Febvre, Vincely 2014 85, 13%, 2016-

2017, N/A UK www.simonnet-febvre.com
 Bouchard Père & Fils, Coteaux des Moines 2015 84, 13%, 2016-2017, POA Fells
 Domaine de la Vougeraie, Terres de Famille 2014 84, 13%, 2016-2018, £26.95 (2013) Berry Bros & Rudd
 Domaine du Beauregard 2015 84, 13%, 2016-2017, N/A UK www.beauregardwines.com
 Domaine Etienne Sauzet, La Tuféra 2014 84, 12.5%, 2016-2018, £26.99 Justerini & Brooks, Winebear
 Jean Chartron, Clos de la Combe 2015 84, 12.5%, 2016-2017, £17.75 Private Cellar
 Laleure Piot, Galtières 2014 84, 12.5%, 2016-2017, N/A UK www.laleure-piot.com
 Pascal Bouchard, Réserve St-Pierre 2015 84, 12.5%, 2016-2017, N/A UK +33 3 86 42 18 64
 Domaine Felix, Bourgogne Côtes d'Auxerre 2015 83, 13%, 2016-2018, N/A UK www.domaine-felix.com
 Domaine Sylvain Dussort, Des Ormes 2014 83, 13%, 2016-2019, POA Vindependents

Fair 76-82pts

Dufouleur, Napoléon 1er 2014 82 Emmanuel Fellot, Chardonnay 2014 82 Nuiton-Beaunoy 2015 80
 Domaine Ballorin et F, Chardonnay 2015 77
 Maison Trenel 2015 76

Faulty

Domaine Ballorin et F, Sans Peur 2015

For full UK stockist details, see p133

Next month's panel tastings
 Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon,
 Ribera del Duero & Rosé Champagne

My top three Stephen Brook

■ **Jean-Claude Boisset, Les Ursulines 2014** Grégory Patriat is the winemaker for the JC Boisset range – high-quality wines from purchased rather than estate-grown grapes. The minerality impressed me here, as you don't expect much from a mere Bourgogne. It has complex aromas and an appealing raciness too. **92 Drink 2016-2017**

■ **Michel Bouzereau et Fils 2014** Bouzereau is a top producer of Meursault, so it's no surprise his Bourgogne is a sophisticated wine. I like its smoky aromas, weight and body, and its long, complex finish. Not quite the grandeur of Meursault, but close. **91 Drink 2016-2017**

■ **Clotilde Davenne 2015** This comes from Prény, a village at the southern end of the Chablis appellation. The soil is chalky, as it should be, giving the wine an appealing raciness. It is surprisingly toasty for an unoaked wine. But for an accident of zoning, this wine might have been an AC Chablis. **91 Drink 2016-2019**

My top three Jason Haynes

■ **Domaine Boillot 2014** Rich, and with more oak influence than some, but it worked very well as there was enough intensity and extract to balance. Like the best 2014s it evolved really nicely in the glass and suggested it would improve further. **93 Drink 2016-2018**

■ **Jean-Claude Boisset, Les Ursulines 2014** Boisset is very dynamic so I shouldn't have been surprised at how good this was. Lively and racy with excellent tension – everything you want! A fine example of the beauty of 2014. **92 Drink 2016-2017**

■ **Domaine François Carillon, Chardonnay 2014** I was pleasantly surprised to see this producer was François Carillon as I tend to prefer his brother's wines, which are more linear, but the tension of 2014 worked well with his fruit-driven style. **92 Drink 2016-2017**

My top three Jasper Morris MW

■ **André Dupuis 2015** This was my favourite 2015 because it delivered all the interest and yeasty complexity one could hope for from a simple Bourgogne Blanc, without showing any undue heat from this sunny vintage. **93 Drink 2017-2020**

■ **Domaine Boillot 2014** What makes this wine work is the impeccable balance between some ripe fruit and the lively, fresher notes which are characteristic of the excellent 2014 vintage. A wine that punches well above its weight. **92 Drink 2016-2018**

■ **Jean-Claude Boisset, Les Ursulines 2014** A Bourgogne Blanc that delivers more than its appellation would suggest. It could almost be a village-level wine, and it is just reaching perfect maturity now. Serve it decanted and see what your guests think it is! **92 Drink 2016-2017**

NB: the tasters' top wines are not necessarily their top-scoring, rather those which, on learning the wines' identity, they feel are the most notable given their provenance, price or other factors

Expert summary: Andy Howard MW

No Outstandings, but with 70% of wines Recommended or more, and priced from as little as £5.99, there's some great drinking to be had from both 2014 and 2015



Andy Howard MW is a wine consultant who writes and judges regularly for Decanter, specialising in Burgundy

GIVEN THE QUALITY of both 2014 and 2015, the results of this tasting were slightly disappointing with no Outstanding wines. But when one considers that 70% of wines were Recommended or more, and that the majority are priced relatively keenly, the rationale for purchasing Bourgogne Blanc can be better understood.

The panel did not show any great preference for either 2014 or 2015, suggesting that the leaner, racier, more structured style of 2014 appeals as much as the fleshier, riper 2015s. Oak influence was favoured, with 70% of Recommended and Highly Recommended benefiting from the extra complexity imparted by some time in wood. Although Bourgogne Blanc can be racy and precise without the influence of oak, it can be simple and dilute if over-cropped or poorly made.

Most Highly Recommended wines were produced by domaine and family producers, but with considerable diversity in terms of size and location. From the south of the region, the family estate of André Dupuis (in the north of the Mâconnais), Collovrays & Terrier and the Cave de Viré (Côte Chalonnaise) performed well. What was encouraging is the excellent value offered – particularly the latter pair at just under £12 a bottle.

From the heart of the Côte d'Or, a number of famous

names produced wines in the Highly Recommended category. Drouhin has vineyards across the length and breadth of Burgundy, whereas Domaine Chapuis is a small estate based in Aloxe-Corton, to the north of Beaune. The top villages of Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet were also represented by Michel Bouzereau et Fils and renowned Puligny producer François Carillon. The Boisset Clos les Ursulines is selected from parcels dotted about the Côte de Beaune, with the emphasis on long, slow fermentation and subtle use of oak. All of these wines showed most, if not all, of these characters.

Surprisingly, a few top domaines did not perform as expected, such as Domaine Dujac (Recommended) and Domaine de la Vougeraie and Domaine Etienne Sauzet (both Commended). It is hoped that these wines, from renowned producers, are simply going through a closed phase. Most Bourgogne Blanc can be appreciated when youthful but in the case of top estates, a little more patience may be required. **D**

'It shows the leaner, racier, more structured style of 2014 appeals as much as the fleshier, riper 2015s'