



Allen Meadows'

BURGHOUND.COM

The ultimate Burgundy reference



April 2025



BITOUZET ~ PRIEUR

François Bitouzet was moderately enthusiastic about the 2023 vintage, describing it as “one where the spring was wet and the vines were complicated to properly work, especially in April. May though started to heat up and dry out and things became easier, at least until July 13th where Meursault in particular was hit by hail that did enough damage to matter but not so much that it was serious. At that point conditions were again complicated as it was dry, then a storm, dry, then a storm, all of which meant that weeds were tough to keep down and mildew pressure was always lurking. Ultimately we chose to begin the harvest on the 2nd of September with our whites and we continued picking through to the 13th. There was a lot of sorting required for just about everything and it was varied from one parcel to another depending on hail and/or sunburn. Yields were accordingly quite varied as well with the pinot mostly coming in between 45 and 50 hl/ha with a bit more for the chardonnay. Potential alcohols were perfectly good at between 12 to 13.5% with most wines testing out right at 13%. The vinifications were easy and I used no whole clusters for the pinot though the malos were quite slow to finish, which is surprising given that there wasn't much malic acid in the first place! As to the wines, I quite like the style as it's fresh and bright with surprisingly good terroir transparency. Moreover, the wines are well-balanced and should drink well young but age well over the medium-term.” While the Bitouzet '23s are perhaps not quite as outstanding as their seriously good 2022s, they are still worth your attention plus they should drink well earlier.

Vintage 2023

Beaune “Cents Vignes” 1er (89-92)

A notably earthier nose speaks mainly of ripe poached plum and vaguely liqueur-like black pinot fruit. There is both fine volume and solid density to the delicious middle weight flavors that deliver very good length on the dusty and lightly bitter pit fruit-inflected finale that is also just a bit more complex. (89-92)/2031+

Bourgogne Passe-tout-grains 86

“La Grange du Duc”

(a blend of 35% gamay and the rest in pinot). A peppery and earthy nose reflects notes of mostly ripe and fresh red berries. The caressing, round and delicious middle weight flavors possess good punch that carries over to the lightly rustic finale. To enjoy young.

Bourgogne Pinot Noir 87

Slightly more elegant aromas include those of red currant, cherry and softer earth influence. There is slightly better size, weight and mid-palate density to the medium weight flavors that possess a caressing mouthfeel while delivering solid depth and persistence on the bitter pit fruit-inflected finale. This is quite good for its level and worth a look. 87/2027+

Volnay (89-91)

(from several parcels that include Ez Echards, Les Aussy and Les Petits Gamets). A background whiff of menthol is present on the ripe and appealingly spicy aromas of mostly black cherry and violet. There is both more volume and a more sophisticated texture to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that exhibit fine length on the first, dusty and youthfully austere finale. This is also very good for its level though note that it's built-to-age and is going to need patience. (89-91)/2030+

Volnay “Les Aussy” 1er (89-92)

Firm reduction renders the nose impossible to accurately assess. More interesting are the rich, seductive and generously proportioned medium weight flavors that also tighten up noticeably on the dusty, firm and youthfully austere finale. This is going to require at least moderate patience. (89-92)/2031+

Volnay “Les Caillerets” 1er (90-93)

Here too the nose is sufficiently reduced to reveal little but some discreet spice nuances. The super-sleek and almost as intensely mineral-driven flavors possess a caressing mid-palate texture that contrasts with the equally firm and youthfully austere finale. This is also going to require at least moderate patience but it should very much be worth the wait. Lovely. (90-93)/2033+

Volnay “Clos des Chênes” 1er (90-92)

Pretty, fresh and ripe aromas of purple fruit, violet and plenty of spice nuances lead to intense if not as concentrated medium weight flavors that flash impressive power on the very firm, youthfully austere and built-to-age finale. Like several wines in the range, this is definitely built to repay extended cellaring. (90-92)/2035+

Volnay “Les Mitans” 1er (90-93)

(from Mitans proper and distributed only in the US market). A ripe and exceptionally pretty nose freely reveals its aromas of poached plum and ample floral elements and in particular, violet. The sleek, refined and classy middle weight flavors exude a discreet minerality that adds a sense of lift to the balanced, youthfully austere and moderately firm finale. While not overly firm, this is also going to require at least 5-ish years of keeping first. Lovely. (90-93)/2031+

Volnay “Les Pitures” 1er (90-93)

(from 35+ year old vines). Fresh, airy and distinctly cool aromas are comprised by notes of mostly red berries along with hints of earth and crushed anise. There is impressive volume and an almost pungent minerality to the velvety yet powerful larger-bodied flavors that deliver fine depth and length in an equally structured finale. Pitures always needs extended keeping and this wine will be no different. (90-93)/2035+

Volnay “Les Taillepieds” 1er (90-92)

This is also quite firmly reduced and revealing nothing of interest. There is by contrast a lovely sense of freshness and verve to the medium-bodied flavors that possess fine mid-palate density and excellent minerality before concluding in a moderately austere finale that is very firmly structured and quite compact. As with any quality Taillepieds, this is a wine to leave alone for at least the better part of a decade. (90-92)/2033+