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The ultimate Burgundy reference April 2025



## Domaine Edmond Cornu & Fils

Pierre Cornu, who directs this 16.5 ha domaine, is slowly turning the reins of day-to-day operations over to his daughter Lucie. Pierre was away at the time of my appointment and thus I did the tasting with Lucie. Her brief take on the 2023 growing season was that "it wasn't too difficult though this isn't to say easy either. The fruit set was quite large and thus we did some selective bunch dropping though not everywhere. Otherwise, it was relatively straightforward until a heat wave hit just before the harvest which presented some logistical challenges to make sure that the pickers weren't too exposed to the heat, to process the fruit efficiently so it didn't start fermenting in the bins and to make sure that we did our usual rigorous sorting. We used some whole clusters in the vinifications, which thankfully finished without issue. As to the wines, I love this style as it's very generous and seductive as well as easy to enjoy. I think it's one of those vintages that will drink well at each stage of its life." Cornu noted that most of the reds were bottled between August 2024 and February 2025.

### Vintage 2023 - Red Wines

#### 2023 Bourgogne: (86)

(note that this cuvée is labeled as Les Barrigards for the US market). A ripe and acceptably fresh nose features mostly notes of poached plum and various dark berries. The suave, round and delicious flavors possess a succulent mid-palate that contrasts mildly with the rustic finale. This should benefit from 2 to 3 years of bottle aging. 86/2027+

#### 2023 Chorey-lès-Beaune "Les Bons Ores": (87)

Acceptably fresh and ripe aromas of wild black berry liqueur and warm earth lead to attractively textured, if not especially dense, flavors that possess a beguiling mid-palate succulence before terminating in a mildly rustic finale where a hint of warmth appears. 87/2027+

#### 2023 Savigny-lès-Beaune: (from Bas Liards). (87)

A slightly fresher nose is comprised more from the red side of the fruit spectrum while displaying nuances of humus and Savigny style earth. The sleek, if again not especially dense, flavors are supported by relatively fine grained tannins on the dusty and youthfully austere finale that could use better depth. 87/2027+

#### 2023 Côte de Nuits-Villages: (86)

#### (from Le Creux de Sobron in Corgoloin).

A mentholated top note is present on the softly floral-suffused aromas of black pinot fruit that has a vaguely liqueur-like quality to it. The lighter weight but punchy flavors conclude in a rustic, mildly austere and slightly warm finish. This isn't as well balanced as the best in the range. 86/2027+

#### 2023 Ladoix Vieilles Vignes: (88)

(from vines between 50 and 75 years of age that are mostly from Champ Pussuet with small amounts of Sur Les Forêts, La Butte and Hameau de Buisson). A fresher nose is comprised by notes of red and dark wild cherry, spice and a hint of violet. The sleeker and more concentrated middle weight flavors possess a caressing mid-palate mouthfeel while exhibiting better balance on the youthfully austere finale. This is sufficiently forward to drink well young if desired. 88/2028+

#### 2023 Ladoix "Le Bois Roussot": (89)

Much like the CdNV, there is a mentholated top note in evidence on the slightly toasty nose of distinctly earth black cherry liqueur scents. The mouthfeel of the nicely voluminous and more concentrated flavors is sleeker still with fine length on the firmer and well-balanced finale. This could use better depth but it appears promising. 89/2029+

#### 2023 Ladoix "Les Buis": (87)

(from the villages portion of the vineyard). This flirts with prune nuances, which are not for me. There is a better sense of vibrancy and freshness on the not especially dense flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the sneaky long and youthfully austere finish. This could use more depth and while overall, it's not without a certain appeal, I can't say that I like the nose. 87/2027+

#### 2023 Ladoix "Les Carrières":(88)

There is a hint of herbal tea character to the fresher aromas of red berries and wet stone. The bright, racy and stony middle weight flavors possess an appealing texture while delivering good length on the compact and youthfully austere finale. This too could use better complexity so plan on holding it for a few years first. 88/2030+

#### 2023 Ladoix "La Corvée": (88-91)

Notably ripe aromas of poached plum and black cherry compote lead to nicely energetic flavors that possess fine volume and evident power on the caressing mid-palate that contrasts noticeably with the rustic, dusty and compact finale that could also use better depth. (88-91)/2031+

#### 2023 Aloxe-Corton Vieilles Vignes: (87-89)

(mostly from Les Cras). This is also quite ripe with a similar nose to that of the La Corvée if perhaps just a bit earthier. The succulent and surprisingly sleek medium weight flavors possess both solid punch and power while culminating in a borderline chewy, rustic and firm finale. This is very Aloxe in basic character. (87-89)/2031+

#### 2023 Aloxe-Corton "Les Moutottes": (88)

Once again the nose is ripe but not over-the-top with its mix of liqueur-like red and dark currant and soft earth wisps. Here too there is a certain sleekness to the mouthfeel of the vibrant and nicely detailed medium weight flavors that exude a subtle minerality on the bitter pit fruit-inflected finish that could use better depth. 88/2029+

#### 2023 Aloxe-Corton "Valozières": (89)

Subtle but not invisible wood influence is present on the earthy and softly spicy nose of dark berry compote. There is good vibrancy to the not particularly dense flavors that still manage to project solid power on the somewhat raspy, even slightly chewy, finale. It's not entirely clear if this will successfully age out but I suspect that it will always drink better with an appropriate dish. (87-89)/2031+

#### 2023 Corton-Bressandes: (87-90)

A very ripe nose also has a compote-like quality to it along with notes of warm earth and violet. The supple and reasonably vibrant flavors are not particularly concentrated and the slightly warm and chewy finish is a bit flat. This may better come together in time but either way, it would be fair to say that it's not at its usual excellent level. (87-90)/2033+