JASPER MORRIS Inside Burgundy

2023 Côte de Beaune – Part 2





Domaine de la Commaraine



The Château de la Commaraine has been building its range, having started out with just the Clos de la Commaraine. Some Côtes de Nuits vines arrived in 2020, St-Aubin in 2022, and now vineyards from Domaine Monthelie-Douhairet-Porcheret in 2023. While work continues in rebuilding around the Château, the wines have been made in a borrowed facility below Meursault, with Paul Krug in charge of production.

The vines are run organically (certified) and biodynamically (being certified) using Taille Poussard with strict debudding. The new St-Aubin Murgers Dents de Chien vineyard has needed a lot of work. In white, they had to replant a huge amount, using suitable drought resistant rootstocks, and

topgrafting poor quality vines – this costs €5 instead of €20 to replant per vine, and you only lose one year's crop. The pinot noir proportion has been pulled out for replanting in 2026. They managed a good crop despite the missing vines. The program was for a light crush, then long slow press in pneumatic, like in champagne, but continue much longer to get some beneficial phenolic astringency. No sulphur is added at this stage. They have used slightly more new wood than their ideal (25–30% in 2023) as they don't have enough white barrels in stock.

The reds are all destemmed, given a cold pre-ferment for a week but then warmed up to 32°C and kept there for 25 to 40 days, but with very light extraction. The first idea was to use 50% new and 50% one year old barrels, but from 2023 they are reacting more according to cuvée. Now one third of the barrels are the 350-litre size, with a smaller proportion of new barrel except for the Clos de la Commaraine itself. The 2023 harvest started on 6th September, with whites around 13%, reds up to 13.5%.

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St-Aubin Murgers des Dents de Chien 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

Oct 2024

White

90-93

2023, St-Aubin Murgers des Dents de Chien 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

P

Quite a full yellow. A rich heady nose, with a suggestion of oxidation. So far the wine has only seen a touch of sulphur in the summer. Late picked and no sulphur enforced this style. The core of the wine stays fresh, albeit with yellow plums, but the core minerality of the vineyard does show thorough. Ambitious, early to be judged, but this could sing in due course. There is certainly a significant volume of flavour. Tasted Oct 2024.

Star rating: **** 100pt score: 90-93 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR

2023 Meursault Santenots 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine Oct 2024 White ★★★★

Half young vines, half 50+. Also a fullish yellow. Some baked apple on the nose, but less oxidative than the St-Aubin. Yellow plums with the apples, slightly lower acidity but actually quite a graceful wine in its generous style, with persistence. Tasted Oct 2024.

Starrating: ★★★★ 100pt score: 91-93 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR



Chambolle-Musigny Les Condemennes, Domaine de la 2023 Commaraine

Oct 2024

2023 89-9

Pommard Clos de la Commaraine 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

2023, Pommard Clos de la Commaraine 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

We tasted several component parts, as the blend is only assembled a month before bottling. However, I could sample a trial

blend. A rich and even purple. The bouquet is impressive, with the extra structure of Pommard but obviously containing a

wealth of fruit. The iron comes through in a minor note. This is dark but not black fruit. We have a long-term keeper here, there is so much to t and the structure has been perfectly judged, the plentiful tannins are very fine, the acidity adds its

A vibrant bright purple. A little touch of garrigue, in a nose that could do with a bit of freshening up in due course, good

acidity behind, plenty of tension on the palate, the fruit on the cusp of red and black, good energy to finish. Tasted Oct

Oct 2024

Red

Red

93-96

2023, Chambolle-Musigny Les Condemennes, Domaine de la Commaraine

Quite a rich deep purple. A concentrated dark red fruit, more the winemaking than the appellation. Some dark cherry, rather firm tannins, this is a wine which will need a lot more elevage. Adequate acidity, quite a pretty finish. Tasted Oct 2024.

Star rating: ★★★★ 100pt score: 89-91 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR

Nuits-St-Georges Aux Bousselots 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

2023

Oct 2024

2023

91-94

Nuits-St-Georges Roncières 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

2023, Nuits-St-Georges Roncières 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

own useful touch while the fruit continues in serene fashion, Tasted Oct 2024.

Oct 2024

91-93

90-92

A bright full purple. Quite a lively fruit on the nose, the system may work better with Nuits than with Chambolle. The fruitier side of plums and some raspberries, plenty in the front of the mouth and building behind. Waves of fruit are quite

2023, Nuits-St-Georges Aux Bousselots 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

distinguished, and though the acidity is not high, this has a feeling of a sound balance. Tasted Oct 2024.

Star rating: ★★★★ 100pt score: 91-94 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR

2023 Volnay Champans 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine Oct 2024

Red

92-95

Star rating: ★★★★★

VIEW FULL DETAILS

+ TO MY CELLAR

2023

2024.

Pommard Chanlins 1er Cru. Domaine de la Commaraine

Oct 2024

Red ****

2023, Volnay Champans 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

A fine vigorous deep purple. There is significantly more volume of fruit in the Champans. While the weight is impeccable, it is the silkiness of the tannins which is really striking, with a layer of velvet on top of the bones. The yield stayed modest at 40 hI/ha here, Tasted Oct 2024.

Star rating: ★★★★ 100pt score: 92-95 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR

2023, Pommard Chanlins 1er Cru, Domaine de la Commaraine

100pt score: 91-93

Adjacent to Pommard Rugiens, the Chanlins plot is worked by caterpillar tractor. Slightly the lightest purple of the range. Quite high toned in a fresh red fruit style. I remember this being bony back in Mademoiselle Armande Douhairet's day and it still has that austerity now, albeit with a pretty, sweet raspberry fruit which goes through to the finish. Tasted Oct 2024.

Star rating: ★★★★ 100pt score: 90-92 VIEW FULL DETAILS + TO MY CELLAR