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Great White
Burgundies

Monumental Burgundies

Joseph Roty's Great 2002's

Eleven generations of Roty's have been growers in Gevrey Chambertin. But for most of us, pre-1968 is pre-history: that's when Joseph Roty took over the family domaine, becoming one of Burgundy's great winemakers—and individualists.

From his grandfather, he inherited some of Burgundy's most prized vineyards, although he tends to be tight-lipped about them. Fifteen years ago, he told Remington Norman: "no one but me knows the age of my wife or the extent of my vineyards ... my importers will think that I am a millionaire and will want to know why there isn't more wine."

He is much more willing to discuss his philosophies

about wine and life. We learned this firsthand when we visited him in 1985, spending six hours in his kitchen, never sitting or eating, just talking. Remington Norman has clearly spent even more time with Roty; his profile in *The Great Domaines of Burgundy* offers extraordinary insights into this unique *vigneron*.

Philippe Roty

In recent years, Joseph Roty has handed the reins to his son Philippe, who has not missed a step. Philippe's Gevrey Chambertin *villages* and *premier cru* wines are every bit as extraordinary as his father's. And the three monumental *grand crus*—Griottes, Mazis and Charmes—continue to rank among Burgundy's best. ►

A Stunning 1976 Late-Disgorged Champagne

One of Champagne's most revered small growers, Jacques Diebolt was named 1992's Champagne producer of the year by *Gault-Millau*. Richard Juhlin calls him an "uncompromising quality fanatic," writing that in his wines "there is a thought-provoking depth which reminds you of Le Mesnil, combined with Cramant's creamy structure."

We have just acquired a fabulous 1976 Blanc de Blancs, recently disgorged and shipped from Diebolt's cellars. Celebrating its 30th birthday next year, it is a superb example of a great vintage. A classic Champagne like this—at a price this low—is increasingly rare these days, so don't miss out.

1976 Diebolt-Vallois
Blanc de Blancs
93 Tanzer
\$89.95



Tanzer: "Pale gold color. Highly nuanced nose combines marzipan, macadamia, toffee, brown butter, honey and apricot. Sweet, rich, ripe and nutty, but kept lively and firm by vibrant acidity. Captivating flavors of honeycomb, salted butter, toffee and apricot jam. Thick with extract and very long on the back end. A remarkably fresh, recently disgorged wine from a very rich vintage for Champagne."

RED BURGUNDY

The Great Roty 2002's

Continued from Page One

Yet, Philippe has made his own mark, extending the family's extraordinary holdings in Marsannay, the northernmost village on the Cotes de Nuits.

While Joseph was content to have his **Marsannay Ouzelois** (80+ year old vines) be the appellation's one true "cult wine," Philippe saw even greater potential. And so in time for the 2001 vintage he added two

more *super Marsannays*: **Boivin** and **Clos de Jeu**, the latter with vines planted around World War I.

Roty releases its wines later than most other top growers, and so the anticipation for the 2002's has been great. The wines finally arrived in the U.S. last month; yet because allocations have been tiny, they are still virtually impossible to find. This could be your only chance.

2002 Charmes-Chambertin
"Trés Vieilles Vignes"
Tanzer 95+ Burghound 95
\$235.00 extremely limited



2002 Griottes-Chambertin
Tanzer 93+ Burghound 93
\$245.00 1 bt. limit



Tanzer: "Wonderfully ripe and concentrated yet light on its feet, with superb definition of flavor. Extremely long and soil-inflected ... Another great vintage for this wine, which is frequently Chambertin-like in a way that too few Chambertins are."

Burghound: "The powerful, indeed forceful flavors coat and stain the palate and completely buffer the solid tannic spine. In short, this is flat out incredible juice and worth a special search to find. In a word, wow!"

Tanzer: "Very expressive aromas of blackberry, cassis, kirsch, violet and licorice. Rich, sweet, sexy and young, with terrific depth of flavor and pliant texture ... this is showing spectacularly already ... Finishes with sweet tannins and palate-staining persistence."

Burghound: "... intensely perfumed aromas of freshly crushed raspberries and ripe plums followed by sappy, classy, gorgeously intense full-bodied flavors and curiously ... This is impeccably balanced and is blessed with mind blowing length. A great effort."

Marsannay

"The 2002 Marsannay portfolio here is stunning" Burghound

2002 Marsannay "Boivin"
\$37.50 limited

Tanzer: "... ripe and sweet, with a creamy old-vines texture and a flavor of cherries. A superb young Marsannay with plenty of personality and lovely persistence."

Burghound: "... beautifully elegant ... the aromas and flavors are very fresh, indeed zippy ... the texture is like eating fresh grapes that explode in your mouth. The finish is very long, complex and extremely fine and this is really excellent juice at this level and highly recommended."

2002 Marsannay "Ouzelois"
\$37.50 limited

Tanzer: "... cassis, blackberry and bitter chocolate ... vibrant, very primary flavors of black fruits and violet ... Young, solidly structured and quite long. Like the Boivin, this may well merit a 90-plus rating with bottle aging."

Burghound: "... ripe and spicy plummy fruit aromas lead to rich, pungent and sappy flavors that possess serious volume and punch plus very impressive finishing intensity. The tannins and sap coat the mouth ..."

2002 Marsannay
"Clos de Jeu"
\$37.50 limited

Tanzer: "Sweet, pliant and creamy, with a small-berry concentration ... Wonderfully vibrant and light on its feet, and quite perfumed in the mouth."

Burghound: "A positively gorgeous nose that is fragrant, bright and pure with a much more discreet hint of wood spice. The flavors are racy, pure and precise ... Outstanding quality here and highly recommended."

CHATEAUNEUF DU PAPE

2003 Le Vieux Donjon

“A concentrated Essence of Provence” Robert Parker

The Michels of Vieux Donjon are a rarity among Châteauneuf-du-Pape producers these days: they put virtually all of the juice from their oldest and best vines into their *cuvée classique*. There is no luxury *cuvée*.

Apart from a few cases of special mourvèdre-rich Châteauneuf the Michels make for family and friends, all the best material goes into the flagship wine.

As a result, Vieux Donjon consistently rivals the best of the appellation. Thanks to aging in immaculate old *foudre*, the truffly, arboreal bouquet is always exciting, and the palate's sensuality transcends most other Châteauneufs. Even in an average vintage, there are few red wines that we would rather have on our table.

The Great 2003

Of course, in an outstanding year, Vieux Donjon enters a different realm. And that's exactly what we have in



2003. In this historically warm and sunny year, the Vieux Donjon is a wine of nearly unprecedented richness, with the potential for up to two decades of development.

This could be the bargain of the great 2003 Châteauneuf vintage. Please don't miss it.

2003 Vieux Donjon* 92-95 Parker

\$39.95 *bt.* **\$89.95** *mag.* **\$21.95** *half bt.*

Parker: "... a big sweet nose of dried Provençal herbs, licorice, seaweed, and spice box. The wine is massively concentrated ... and has a long, concentrated, chewy finish with high tannin and equally high extract. If there is one Châteauneuf du Pape that smells like an open-air Provençal spice, flower, and food market, it is Vieux Donjon ... classic, concentrated essence of Provence ..."

Third Stream

Roberto Voerzio's Superb 1999's

At \$200+ on release, few Barolos are more expensive than those of Roberto Voerzio. But no producer spends as much to produce a bottle. His vines are obsessively pruned and manicured, with yields arguably the lowest in the zone ... a mere bottle per vine. And his standards in the cellar are no less lofty.

As for the wines themselves, they cannot be catego-



rized. Though he ages in barrique, there isn't a trace of new wood in the taste or aroma. There is only pure, concentrated, hugely complex Nebbiolo—particularly in a powerful vintage like 1999.

Though the suggested retail for Voerzio's 1999's is over \$200, we are delighted to offer these legends-in-the-making at an incredibly low price.

1999 Barolo "Brunate"
95 Wine Spectator
\$89.95

Wine Spectator: "Big and chewy, with loads in reserve. Aromas of mushrooms, berries and smoke. Full-bodied and mouthpuckering. This is massive yet polished. Giant wine ... All due to extremely low yields ... 320 cases made. \$214."

1999 Barolo "Cerequio"
94+ Steve Tanzer
\$89.95

Tanzer: "A racy, precise, yet thoroughly ripe wine with great vivacity ... boasts superb extract. Finishes with very fine tannins and an exhilarating but subtle blend of fruits, spices and dried flowers. One of my sentimental favorites of the vintage."

1999 Barolo "La Serra"
95 Wine Spectator
\$89.95

Wine Spectator: "Fantastic aromas of freshly sliced plums and wild and wonderful Indian spices. Full-bodied, super-silky and round, with wonderful fruit and a long, long finish. Superb ... 430 cases made. \$214."

The Power of the Site

The Remarkable 2002's of Descendientes de J. Palacios

One of the many changes sweeping Spanish winemaking is that, for the first time, great wines are being made to express the magic of a particular site. And, without question, Alvaro Palacios has been the pioneer.

His L'Ermita—created in 1993 from the great Priorat vineyard—was the first truly important single-vineyard wine ever made in Spain.

And when he set his sights on Bierzo in the late 1990's, his gaze quickly turned to the amazing sites he found around the town of Corullón—precipitous slopes covered with 65- to 100-year-old Mencía vines.

In 2001, working with his nephew Ricardo Pérez, he made his first single-*cru* bottlings from four sites—*San Martín*, *Monçerbal*, *Las Lamas*, and *La Faraona*. Each cuvée was strikingly different; collectively, they were among last year's most exciting new wines. (In fact, José Peñín, Spain's top wine critic, named *La Faraona* Spain's "Best New Wine" of 2004.)

Now that the 2002's have arrived, we see that 2001 was no fluke. In fact—with each 2002 mirroring the character of its 2001 counterpart—the new vintage offers an electrifying demonstration of just how distinctive these wines are. So, as in 2001, 2002 *San Martín* is warm and generous, *Monçerbal* is coolly mineral, *Las Lamas* boasts Hermitage-like power, and *La Faraona* is profoundly rich and complex.

Meteorologically Blessed

Unlike much of Spain—which suffered from a cool summer and rain at harvest—Bierzo was blessed with a

“Some of the most compelling wines in Spain ... these wines are from a small, previously unknown part of vinous Spain that is situated in a fictitious D.O. somewhere between the Rhône, the Ribera del Duero and deepest Burgundy.”
Bruce Schoenfeld

beautiful crop in 2002. Rainfall was moderate: almost exactly the annual average. And the early autumn rains arrived at an optimal point in the ripening cycle.

The relatively cool 2002 growing season also played to the estate's strength, which is aromatic complexity. In 2002, the weather permitted a long and physiologically perfect maturation. Harvest was two weeks later than in 2001, yet there is no *sur-maturité* to obscure aromatics. In fact, the wines are some of the purest expressions of their sites we have ever

seen in Spain. Like Artadi's "El Pison," this element of *terroir* separates the wines from their peers.

This Offer

In 2002, Alvaro and Ricardo produced five single-*cru* wines; the addition is *Fontelas*, made from a unique parcel of *San Martín*.

They also have produced another marvelous *Corullón*, sourced from the same sites as the single-*cru* bottlings. The average vine age of 65 years makes it a mindboggling value.

Our offer of all these wines follows on the next page. As you'll see, the single-*cru* wines represent miniscule production; so, to maximize the number of customers who can experience them, we are again offering them as an assortment—one bottle of each, plus a bottle of *Corullón*—at a special low price. We can, in addition, offer *Corullón* and small quantities of *San Martín* and *Las Lamas* on their own. Finally, we can offer a few painfully rare large format bottlings.



Old Mencía vines in Fontelas



The slope of Monçerbal



Descendientes' cellars in Corullón

BIERZO

Descendientes 2002 Assortment

**One bottle each of
San Martín, Fontelas,
Monçerbal, Las Lamas,
La Faraona & Corullón**

\$495

for the 6-bottle set



2002 Corullón \$39.95 *bt.* \$450.00 *case*



Bruce Schoenfeld writes of Corullón: "*It has the strength of a dancer, not a body-builder.*" Corullón derives its soaring quality from old vines in San Martín, Monçerbal and Las Lamas. The 2002 vintage is very pure, displaying the full range of the *cru*, with exquisite balance and ample minerality. Burgundian in its refinement, it is a fantastic value.

Available Individually — Extremely Limited

2002 San Martín <i>bottle</i>	67.50
2002 San Martín <i>magnum</i>	145.00
2002 San Martín <i>double-magnum</i>	295.00

From this chalky, south-facing vineyard, the '02 San Martín is full and richly textured. *137 cases made.*

2002 Las Lamas <i>bottle</i>	110.00
2002 Las Lamas <i>magnum</i>	235.00
2002 Las Lamas <i>double-magnum</i>	495.00

Second only to La Faraona in its depth, boasting Hermitage-like power and length. *142 cases made.*

2002 Fontelas <i>magnum</i>	190.00
2002 Fontelas <i>double-magnum</i>	395.00

Fontelas is San Martín's tenderloin; it produces a wine of distinctive opulence and definition. *60 cases made.*

2002 Monçerbal <i>magnum</i>	190.00
2002 Monçerbal <i>double-magnum</i>	395.00

The most pinot noir-like of the five *cru*, with profound Chambolle-like aromatics. *108 cases made.*

2002 La Faraona	<i>available only in the assortment</i>
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Majestic ... *the great wine of Bierzo. 36 cases made.*

Vargellas 'Vinha Velha'

Old-Vine Rarity from Taylor

Special cuvées—particularly from old vines—have always been rare in Vintage Port. Since 1931, there has of course been Quinta do Noval's Nacional, made from a parcel of ungrafted vines, but few others of note.



Quinta do Vargellas

But then in 1995, Taylor created "Vargellas Vinha Velha." This extraordinary wine is produced from the earliest walled terraces at Vargellas, the great vineyard Taylor acquired in the 1890's. According to Taylor, these vines—many of which are over 70 years old—yield just 20% of what is normal in the Douro. Foot trodden in a small lagar, Vinha Velha has been made only three times: in 1995, 1997 and 2000. Production is tiny.

The latest Vinha Velha, the 2000, became available for the first time in 2004. If you haven't received

any offers, there's good reason. The primary markets for Vintage Port—the U.S. and U.K.—have seen only a trickle, and much of it has been in special box sets with the 1995 and 1997.

That the 2000 Vargellas Vinha Velha is fabulous should surprise no one; Robert Parker called Taylor's *normal* 2000 Vintage Port "the leading candidate for the port of the vintage" with a 98-point rating.

It's a privilege for us to be able to offer this extraordinary, and rare, Vintage Port. But hurry; quantities are extremely limited.

2000 Taylor's Vargellas Vinha Velha*
\$245.00

TUSCANY

Passion's Payback

The Emerging Cult of Montepeloso

When the subject of passionate, individualistic winemakers comes up, you're likely, first and foremost, to think of Burgundy—and then perhaps the Rhône, the Loire and Piedmont. Tuscany may not even come to mind—given the dominance of formulaic consulting enologists in the region.

Fabio Chiarello is a rare exception. In 1998, he bought Montepeloso—which occupies the upper slope above Tua Rita on Suvereto's most providential hillside—and spent the next three years pruning and retraining the vines to achieve lower yields and more even ripening. In the meantime, he sacrificed 75% of his production. He also spent every cent he had, driving a 30-year-old Citroën to save money.

The introspective Chiarello has little interest in what other winemakers do or say, or in courting the press. He has a clear vision of the wines he wants to make and how to make them. In fact, of all Tuscan winemakers, he reminds us most of Gianfranco Soldera, another hugely talented man driven by his own philosophies—with an obsessive commitment to quality and an apparent disinterest in what others think about him or his wines.



The Payback

Slowly, Chiarello is receiving the rewards of his passion. The buzz that has been spreading through Europe over the past two years has lept the Atlantic. A growing number of collectors see Chiarello's wines as the most beautiful, profound and expressive of the Tuscan New Wave:

Nardo — The premier Sangiovese of the coast and one of the best in all Tuscany. In mid-March, *erobertparker.com* reported that 2000 Nardo swept the field in a major New York tasting of 2000 Super Tuscans—humbling the likes of Sassicaia, Vigna d'Alceo and Solaia.

Gabbro — The great Cabernet Sauvignon of Suvereto, Gabbro has done for this variety what Tua Rita's Redigaffi did for Merlot. A decade from now, we would not be surprised to see Gabbro replace Sassicaia as the ultimate Tuscan Cabernet. A scant 200 cases are made.

Eneo — Is there a better value coming out of Tuscany today? A fantastic expression of coastal Sangiovese, Eneo puts many \$60 Super Tuscans to shame.

2001 Nardo

94 Daniel Thomases

\$89.95 extremely limited



Daniel Thomases in *The Wine Advocate*: "The 2001 Nardo ... substantially lifts the intensity level, with a blast of jammy plum and cassis fruit, warm, penetrating and spicy, and the long, authoritative flavors, the depth, structure and definition of a superior wine." *Tre Bicchieri from Gambero Rosso.*

2001 Gabbro

94 Daniel Thomases

\$89.95 extremely limited



Daniel Thomases in *The Wine Advocate*: "A somber, inky ruby, its powerful aromas of black currants, sweet herbs and minerals are matched by a concentration, richness and complexity on the palate, a fullness and iron power which promise twenty years of excellent drinking."

2001 Eneo

\$29.95 bottle \$345.00 case

While the two luxury cuvées get much of the attention in the press, the Sangiovese-based Eneo has quietly achieved a rabid cult following of its own. Even more than previous vintages, the 2001 Eneo is a mindboggling bargain.

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WHITE BURGUNDY

White Magic

Henri Boillot's Incredible White Burgundies

Today, Henri Boillot is making some of the greatest white wines in Burgundy—surpassing the work of all but a handful of the region's greatest domaines. This seems an impossible feat for a micro-negociant who only just started in 1999.



"How can chardonnay get better than this?" Tanzer

Boillot's success has not been by accident. He has, according to *Burghound's* Allen Meadow, "an attention

to detail that is nothing short of incredible." And each of his *premier cru* and *grand cru* wines comes from a single grower, translating into the kind of consistency and character that are the hallmarks of great Burgundy.

We are pleased to offer the following prizes—in both bottles and halves—that Henri has made under the Henri Boillot and Jean Boillot labels.

Majestic Pulignys

**2001 J. Boillot Puligny
"Les Pucelles"***
\$65.00 bottle

Tanzer: "92 rating ... Extremely rich and concentrated, with honeyed fruit flavors verging on exotic. But this has the thrust to balance its sheer sweetness and ripeness."

Rovani: "93 rating ... silky-textured and lush ... offers flavors reminiscent of smoky minerals resting on a bed of apple compote. It combines gorgeous, sultry fat with purity and precision."

**2001 J. Boillot Puligny
"Clos de la Mouchere"**
\$27.95 half bottle

Tanzer: "92+ rating. Sweet and strong ... superb structure."

Burghound: "92 rating. From 60 year old vines ... extremely rich flavors plus a finish that goes on and on ... an extremely impressive effort."

Rovani: "93 rating ... explodes from the glass ... It is dense yet detailed, has outstanding fat, yet also displays exceptional grip."

**2000 J. Boillot Puligny
"Perrières"**
\$49.95 bottle

Tanzer: "90+ rating. Exotic aromas of peach, apricot and minerals ... finishes pure and long."

Burghound: "90 rating ... wonderfully focused, precise and intense flavors brimming with minerality. The acidity is prominent yet completely ripe and this is entirely classy. This is still within the bounds of oak/fruit balance, primarily because of the underlying concentration and sève."

Hedonistic Meursaults

2001 Henri Boillot Meursault "Les Cras"*
\$25.95 half bottle

Rovani: "92 rating. I know of no better source than Henri Boillot for Meursault Les Cras. The 2001 is liquid elegance ... sublimely refined, beautifully detailed, and deep."

Burghound: "This beautifully walks that fine line between being delicious today while offering fine potential for future development and is really extremely impressive."

2002 Henri Boillot Meursault "Perrières"
\$95.00 bottle

Tanzer: "93-97 rating ... Superripe and thick, with chewy soft citrus and pineapple flavors complicated by stone and gunflint ... A wine of great solidity, concentration and palate-staining persistence."

2001 Henri Boillot Meursault "Poruzots"*
\$25.95 half bottle

Rovani: "92 rating ... expressive, rich, powerful."

Burghound: "Classic Poruzots ... superb intensity and that beguiling fresh baked bread framed by hints of earth and honeysuckle nose. This is a big, bold, full-flavored wine in a take no prisoners style."

2001 Henri Boillot Meursault
\$17.50 half bottle

Burghound: "... classic Meursault flavors ... first rate ..."

Rovani: "90 rating. An assemblage of Narvaux, Tillets, and Chevalières ... satin-textured, intense ..."

Tanzer: "Dense, sweet and strong ... An excellent, firmly structured Meursault villages ... noteworthy length."

A Fabulous Petite Sirah

Carver Sutro's 2002 Palisades Vineyard

Old-vine Petite Sirah enjoys a particular chemistry in Northern California, where it can produce wines of spectacular color, intense fruit, and brawny structure. And one of the best we've ever tasted is coming these days from Carver Sutro's Palisades Vineyard.

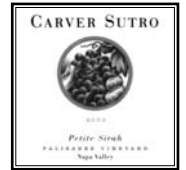


Carver Sutro's old vines

The nose is particularly magical, its meaty essence recalling Northern Rhône Syrah.

The Sutro's have been producing their own wine since 1998, and still only make about 300 cases. We were honored to receive a very limited allocation of the superb 2002.

**2002 Carver Sutro
Petite Sirah "Palisades"
92-95 Parker
\$45.00**



Parker: "... awesome, with superb purity, great texture, a powerful presence on the palate as well as a surprisingly elegant, harmonious personality. A Petite Sirah of monumental proportions, it should easily last for two decades, but if my instincts are correct, it will be more accessible in its youth because of its lower acidity."

Tucked away in a spectacular amphitheatre in far northern Napa Valley, summer temperatures can reach 110 degrees. For more than a century, vines have been dry-farmed here by just two families: Barberis, who planted the first vines in 1902, and Sutro, who arrived in 1992. Most of the vines date from the 1960's, although some sections were planted 100 years ago.

Winemaker Gary Brookman (who also makes Grace Family) shows a deft touch with the Palisades Petite Sirah, producing a wine that despite its enormous size and power, has great complexity and a luxurious texture.

Patz & Hall Alder Springs Chardonnay

Of *Patz & Hall's* three great single *cru* Chardonnays, the scarcest is Alder Springs. At 2000 feet above the Pacific Ocean in Northern Mendocino—with low-yielding, high-density plantings of the best Dijon clones—Alder Springs produces one of California's richest, most layered and concentrated Chardonnays—often compared to a *Grand Cru* white Burgundy. Very limited.

**2003 Patz & Hall
Chardonnay "Alder Springs"
94 Parker
\$54.95**



Parker: "A liqueur of stone-like character gives this wine presence and nobility. Full-bodied and intense, with notions of citrus oils and tropical fruits along with tremendous purity and crisp acidity, this deep, textured, full-throttle, impeccably-balanced Chardonnay can be enjoyed over the next 3-5 years."

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