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## Drink Great White Burgundy Without Blowing Up Your Credit Card - 20 Wines Show How



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What white wine drinkers need is not more Montrachet at \$1,000 a bottle, but more drinkable white Burgundy at \$30, or even \$20, a bottle. But do such creatures even exist? And if they do, where to find them?

They certainly do exist, and it's not too hard to find them, either.

Just head south, fellow Chardonnay-lovers, just head south to the until-recently-overlooked regions of the Côte de Chalonnaise and Mâconnais, between the Côte d'Or and Beaujolais, where you'll discover appellations like Montagny, Rully, St-Veran, Mercurey, Pouilly-Vinzelles, and the best known, and therefore most pricy, Pouilly-Fuissé. They deliver delectable Chardonnay for everyday drinking at a fraction of the price of their exalted cousins on the Côte d'Or.

I've loved these wines for years, treasuring them as reasonably priced, under-the-radar gems, especially when dealing with restaurant markups.

This is Chardonnay for people who think they don't like Chardonnay, don't like the varietal because their only exposure has been to unctuous oak-bombs from California. These wines, by contrast, have a vivacity, a nervosity, a food-friendly energy that's lacking from all but a very few Napa and Sonoma versions.

Here are my notes on some of the best from an extensive tasting. Few were poor, at the worst industrial and boring, while most were a pleasure at least, and some so glorious they made my heart sing.

*Saint-Véran 2014, Bouchard Aine & Fils*



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\$22

[Web](#)

Shows what terrific value Saint-Véran can be. Almost Chablis-like in its pure, mineral-hued crispness, all elegance and restraint. Definitely a fish-friendly drink.