

Wine Spectator

TASTING REPORTS

In the Heights

The 2019 vintage in Burgundy delivers stunning Pinot Noirs at record prices

By Bruce Sanderson



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For lovers of red Burgundy, the past decade has offered almost nothing but good news. A nearly unbroken string of excellent vintages—some of them superb—have produced an array of choices from the Côte d’Or, as well as plenty of great options from the region’s outlying areas.

The current crop of wines, primarily early releases from the hot, dry 2019 vintage, indicate another spate of brilliant Pinot Noirs that should provide allure and pleasure for decades to come, while offering instant gratification in some cases as well. That’s because the vintage features ripe fruit flavors that are beautifully defined, plus silky textures and plenty of flesh to cover the wines’ underlying structures at this stage.

In terms of quality, the 2019s equal the refined and elegant 2016s, though they are closer in character to the powerful 2015s or 2005s, the latter another hot, dry year. These comparisons will become clearer as many more 2019s are released this spring.

Bruce Sanderson’s Recommended 2019 Red Burgundies

Nearly 300 wines were reviewed for this report. [A free alphabetical list is also available.](#) **WineSpectator.com** members can access complete reviews for all wines tasted using the online Wine Ratings search.

Top Wines

DOMAINE DE LA VOUGERAIE

Clos de Vougeot 2019

Score: 95 | \$322

WS Review: Expressive, spicy and silky, with berry and cherry fruit wrapped in toasty oak. Firm yet elegant, with a lasting impression of ripe fruit.