

Domaine Roger/Joseph Belland (Santenay)

2019	➡ Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos Pitois" 1er	red	91
2019	Les Maranges "La Fussièrè" 1er	red	89
2019	Pommard "Les Cras"	red	88
2019	Santenay "Beauregard" 1er	red	89
2019	Santenay "Les Charmes"	red	88
2019	Santenay "Clos Rousseau" 1er	red	89
2019	Santenay "La Comme" 1er	red	90
2019	➡ Santenay "Les Gravières" 1er	red	92
2019	➡ Volnay "Santenots" 1er	red	92

Roger Belland told me that 2019 is a "surprisingly fine vintage given the relatively high summer heat. Despite this, our vines didn't really suffer much in the way of hydric stress. We picked from the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and brought in clean and ripe fruit that gave us potential alcohols that ranged from 13.5 to 14%. Yields were definitely lower than in 2018 as they were around 42 hl/ha in white and approximately 38 hl/ha in red versus an average of around 55 hl/ha in white and about 42 hl/ha in red in 2018. We used around 50% whole clusters in the vinifications for most of the reds [80% was used for the Santenots.] but used a very light touch as the skins were thick and it would have been easy to over extract. I like the style of the wines a lot because even though they're clearly ripe, they remain quite fresh and with fine terroir transparency." Belland noted that the 2019 reds were bottled in September 2019.

**2019 Maranges "Clos Rousseau":** An appealingly spicy nose is comprised by notes of poached plum and violet. The delicious, round and plush medium weight flavors terminate in a refreshing and sneaky long finish. This lightly tannic effort is not especially dense, but I like the balance and overall, this attractive effort could easily be enjoyed young. 89/2024+

**2019 Les Maranges "La Fussièrè":** This is aromatically similar to the Clos Rousseau with perhaps just a bit more earth influence. The caressing mouthfeel of the medium-bodied flavors is slightly finer while offering more evident minerality on the lingering finish. In much the same fashion as the Clos Rousseau, this is not particularly concentrated, but this too should drink well shortly after release. 89/2024+

**2019 Santenay "Les Charmes":** A more elegant and slightly cooler nose reflects fruit that derives more from the red side of the fruit spectrum along with just enough earth character to warrant mentioning. The nicely vibrant and relatively forward flavors possess better verve if somewhat less complexity on the refreshing finale. 88/2023+

**2019 Santenay "La Comme":** A discreet application of wood sets off the more deeply pitched aromas that include plenty of floral with plum, pungent earth and soft *sauvage* hints. The slightly more concentrated and powerful middle weight plus flavors possess good richness and even a touch of muscle before concluding in a firmer, focused dusty and youthfully austere finish. 90/2026+

**2019 Santenay "Beauregard":** More evident wood frames riper aromas of baked plum, cherry liqueur and warm earth. There is a bit more volume to the delicious, plump and juicy middle weight flavors that terminate in a slightly warm and equally youthfully austere finale. This too should be approachable on the younger side. 89/2025+

**2019 Santenay "Les Gravières":** Whiffs of wood and menthol sit atop ripe but fresh aromas of violet, lavender, spice and various dark berries. There is both good punch and volume to the relatively finely textured medium weight flavors that possess a silky mouthfeel and good minerality on the complex, balanced and impressively long finish. This is lovely and a wine that could be enjoyed young but also aged to good effect. 92/2027+

**2019 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos Pitois":** (a 3-ha monopole of the Domaine, planted 50% each to pinot and chardonnay; the pinot vines are approximately 60+ years of age). A moderately toasty and pungently earthy nose speaks of spice and floral-suffused dark currant scents. There is more volume if less refinement to the delicious and seductively textured medium-bodied flavors that contrast with the rustic, serious and lingering finish where a touch of bitter cherry pit character slowly emerges. Worth checking out. 91/2026+

**2019 Pommard "Les Cras":** Here the notably ripe nose flirts with prune on the baked cherry and violet scented nose. The round, delicious and caressing flavors possess fine concentration as well as evident minerality on the powerful, serious and moderately rustic finale. While I can't say that I'm wild about the nose, this is an impressively long wine with good development potential. 88/2027+

**2019 Volnay "Santenots":** (vinified with 80% whole clusters). A discreet but not invisible application of wood sets off the distinctly floral and spice-infused nose of mostly purple fruit and in particular plum. The exceptionally rich and velvet-textured medium-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density as well as solid power on the moderately austere, serious and built-to-age finish. This too is worth checking out but in contrast to most of the preceding wines, this is definitely going to require at least some patience before it is likely to drink well. 92/2029+