

Burghound.com's 2013 Vintage Selections

The 62 "Top Value" Wines from the 2013 vintage in this Issue

2013	Santenay "Beauregard" 1er	Belland, Roger/Joseph	90
2013	Santenay "La Comme" 1er	Belland, Roger/Joseph	90
2013	Santenay "Les Gravières" 1er	Belland, Roger/Joseph	91

Domaine Roger/Joseph Belland (Santenay)

2013	Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos Pitois" 1er	red	90
2013	Les Maranges "La Fussière" 1er	red	88
2013	Pommard "Les Cras"	red	88
2013	➤ Santenay "Beauregard" 1er	red	90
2013	Santenay "Les Charmes"	red	88
2013	➤ Santenay "La Comme" 1er	red	90
2013	➤ Santenay "Les Gravières" 1er	red	91
2013	Volnay "Santenots" 1er	red	89

Roger Belland told me that 2013 wasn't as "difficult to manage as 2012 because we had no hail in Santenay and Chassagne though obviously we were hit in Volnay and Pommard. We began picking on the 26th of September with the whites and then proceeded to the reds. There wasn't much sorting required though obviously when your vineyards have been hit by hail you want to take due care with the fruit. We used an average of 25% whole clusters though the Santenots was 70%. We used slightly less wood for both the reds and the whites with 10 to 40% for the former and 0 to 35% for the latter. The style of the reds is fruity and I would describe them as wines of pleasure." Belland noted that the bottling was done in September 2014. (T. Edwards Wines, www.tedwardwines.com, NY, NY; and Berkmann Wine Cellars, www.berkmann.co.uk, Berry Brothers & Rudd, www.bbr.com, Lay & Wheeler, www.laywheeler.com, Liberty Wines, www.libertywine.co.uk among others, all UK - Note that the exact same wines are sold under the Joseph Belland label, which is represented by Cellar Door Selections, www.cellardoorselections.com, Columbia, MD).

2013 Les Maranges "La Fussière": There is a hint of reduction but it's sufficiently slight to allow the violet, plum and earth aromas to be seen. There is fine volume to the delicious and punchy middle weight flavors that possess touches of earth and rusticity on the otherwise lingering finish. 88/2018+

2013 Santenay "Les Charmes": Here the nose is completely clean with an aromatic profile of black raspberry, red cherry, violets and a hint of tea. There is a fine sense of energy to the delineated, round and supple flavors that also possess hints of warmth and austerity. This delicious effort should be approachable young but age well too. 88/2018+

2013 Santenay "La Comme": This is notably more elegant though also more restrained aromatically with its pretty array of essence of dark currant, raspberry and once again violet scents. There is more volume to the delicious and lightly mineral-inflected medium-bodied flavors that possess a suave and very round mouth feel before culminating in a relatively refined finale. This is a generously proportioned effort that should also drink well young. 90/2019+

2013 Santenay "Beauregard": This is even more restrained and only reluctantly reveals notes of complex, cool and admirably pure dark berries, spice and a pretty array of floral elements. There is a really lovely texture to the utterly delicious and seductive medium weight flavors that exude a fine bead of minerality, all wrapped in a balanced, stony and lingering finish. This is worth checking out. 90/2019+

2013 Santenay "Les Gravières": Like the Fussière this displays just a hint of reduction that is enough to push the fruit to the background. By contrast there is excellent freshness and verve to the even more mineral-driven flavors that deliver fine depth on the impressively long finish though note that this is also markedly more structured. If you have the patience to wait this too is worth considering. 91/2021+

2013 Chassagne-Montrachet "Clos Pitois": (a huge 3 ha *monopole* of the Domaine, planted 50% each to pinot and chardonnay; the pinot vines are approximately 60+ years of age). The exceptionally pretty nose is comprised by an earthy essence of dark raspberry liqueur, spice and discreet floral aromas that shine against a subtle backdrop of wood. There is fine concentration to the appealingly textured and lightly mineral-inflected flavors that possess a lush mouth feel before terminating in a dusty, cool and balanced finish. This is finer than the Gravières but a bit less complex. 90/2019+

2013 Pommard "Les Cras": This is also quite aromatically ripe with an expressive nose of black berry liqueur, violet, plum sauce and discreet spice nuances. There is an equally lush mouth feel to the intense and solidly well-concentrated flavors that possess ample Pommard muscle on the ever-so-slightly dry finish. I emphasize that while the balance isn't perfect, with the right food it will likely be all but invisible. 88/2019+

2013 Volnay "Santenots": (70% whole clusters). An exceptionally floral nose shares the spotlight with plenty of spice, black raspberry liqueur and Asian-style tea nuances. There is a sleek and restrained mouth feel to the medium-bodied flavors that possess good punch on the mildly austere and persistent finish. Like the Pommard there is a hint of dryness but in this case it's even more subtle and again is unlikely to be perceptible if enjoyed with an appropriate dish. 89/2019+