

Romanée
Conti
2006

2324 blles



smooth tannins and gentleness.' He has made a lovely, perfumed, supple Champans with sweet mulberry fruit.

Michel Lafarge, Volnay Les Caillerets ★★★★★
Balletic wine where the terroir shines. The fruit sparkles and dances. Lovely poise, delightful purity and a long finish, glinting with minerality. **Arm, BBR, Con, DBy**

Santenay

Good pure, fruity reds from both sides of the village.

Pousse d'Or, Santenay, Clos Tavannes ★★★★★
Succulent and rounded with sweet tannins and a plump finish. Top notch. **Wis**

Roger Belland, Santenay Gravière ★★★
Spicy aromatics, pure fruit, rather refine, tannins and lively minerality. **B&T**

WHITE BURGUNDY 2006

The 2006 vintage marks a return to more classic white Burgundy. It is enormously pleasing and has good terroir definition. It is a drinker's vintage, not a trophy hunter's and should be fairly priced, so snaffle it up.

While 2005 may be hard to follow, 2006 does it with aplomb. Not only is it very good quality, it has a distinctly different profile from 2005. It is stylish and fresh, with ripe and lucid fruit which allows the terroir to shine. Jean-Marc Blain describes it as 'very floral, charming and elegant'. It will certainly drink early, but many wines have the capacity to age mid-term.

It was a difficult vintage – after a cold and rainy August, the prognosis was not good. A warm September saved the day

truffle and a more conventional palate.
Tight, yet integrated, finely compact, with well-harnessed power. A purposeful wine with an elegance and a long, tapering finish. **£37.50; HBa, HBJ, HHC, L&S, Mnt**

Pommard

Those who play strengths of the vintage produce fruity 'ommard with supple strength Other made clunky

Domaine de Courcel, Pommard Rugiens ★★★★★

Lovely perfume. Supple and subtle with underlying vigour. Plenty of ripe tannin woven into juicy mulberry fruit. Delicious **£40.63; C&C, Gns, Jer, L&S, Lay, Loe**

Louis Boillot, Pommard ★★★
Lightish bodied, pure and straight with blueberry fruit, zesty energy, pleasant tannins and a lifted finish. **No importer as yet; +33 3 85 55 28 49**

Volnay

Volnay often catches the worst weather, attracting swift and harsh judgement of its wines. It rained and there was rot, but top growers were selective and made feminine, delicate wines. Michel Lafarge describes it as a 'very pretty vintage'. The best selected the clean fruit and then looked for just enough structure, but not too much. Dominique Lafon remarks: 'I was looking for less extraction. There was a risk of towards fruit.'

5; IAN SHAW/CEPHAS

PHOTOGRAPHS: