



DOMAINE DROUHIN-LAROZE

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN, FRANCE

BY NEIL MARTIN

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From: The Lord Giveth...Burgundy 2023 (Jan 2025)

Caroline Drouhin guided me through their 2023s. She told me that they used 60% new oak on the Premier and Grand Crus that now come from five cooperages instead of four: Raymond, Cavin, Seguin Moreau, Billaud and Ateliers Centre France. From the 2024 vintage, they are using their new winery onsite rather than the old one that had been used since her great-grandmother. The new facility has more efficient temperature-controlled vats that are easier to clean.

I was enamored by the 2023s from this Domaine, which I have been visiting since Caroline's parents' days. Back then, the wines were often extracted and oaky, in vogue at that time. These wines are cut from a different cloth: picked a little earlier, a lighter maceration, with more red fruit and a lighter veneer of oak that is more proportionate to the fruit concentration. The best had been doing cartwheels of joy (metaphorically). I have no doubt that their 2023s surpass their 2022s; in fact, this might be the most consistent and satisfying range from Drouhin-Laroze.

MUSIGNY 2023

GRAND CRU

(94-96)

From: The Lord Giveth...Burgundy 2023 (Jan 2025)

Refined and poised, the 2023 Musigny Grand Cru has a very pure and powerful bouquet of redcurrant and wild strawberry—a multi-faceted Musigny that blossoms in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with satin-like tannins, a perfect line of acidity and a persistent, almost understated finish. Excellent.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2025-2047

CHAMBERTIN-CLOS DE BÈZE 2023

GRAND CRU

(95-97)

The 2023 Chambertin Clos-de-Bèze Grand Cru has an exquisite bouquet with vivacious brambly red fruit. It is very refined and poised with great transparency, yet there is power here (unusual in this vintage). A little edgier and more tensile than the Clos de Vougeot, the palate is medium-bodied with finely spun tannins and a sapid finish. Long and tender, this is deeply impressive.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2028-2050

CLOS DE VOUGEOT 2023

GRAND CRU

(95-97)

The 2023 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru has an intense bouquet with black cherry, raspberry and violet scents that burst from the glass. The palate is medium-bodied, fleshy and very pure, with saturated tannins, impressive depth and plenty of blue fruit on the finish that makes it seem like a Bonnes-Mares. Superb.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2027-2049

BONNES MARES 2023

GRAND CRU

(93-95)

The 2023 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru has a fragrant bouquet that shades the Chapelle and Latricières-Chambertin: red cherry, raspberry and forest floor scents, with hints of iris flower in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with fleshy tannins, fine depth, gentle grip and a sensual, lightly spiced finish. This should age extremely well in bottle, as the second winter will fill it out.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2027-2050

CHAPELLE-CHAMBERTIN 2023

GRAND CRU

(93-95)

The 2023 Chapelle-Chambertin Grand Cru, matured in around 70% new oak, has a well-defined bouquet of brambly red berry fruit, tobacco and light licorice scents. It is very focused and gains intensity with aeration. Fresh and vibrant, the medium-bodied palate is smooth in texture with pliant tannins and a judicious touch of black pepper on the finish. Very classy.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2028-2048

LATRICIÈRES-CHAMBERTIN 2023 GRAND CRU

(91-93)

The 2023 Latricières-Chambertin Grand Cru has a lifted nose with a slightly more savory bouquet, opening nicely with aeration: red berry fruit, sous-bois and light minty aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with quite grippy tannins, dark berry fruit and a more structured finish. Give this two or three years in bottle.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2027-2048

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU LAVAUT ST-JACQUES 2023

(90-92)

The 2023 Gevrey-Chambertin Lavaut Saint-Jacques 1er Cru has a beautiful bouquet with red cherries, wild strawberries and a dab of dark chocolate. The medium-bodied palate opens sumptuously, with a creamy texture reminiscent of the Clos Prieur and a touch of white pepper toward the finish. This is very fine but not perhaps my favorite, possibly due to being fully destemmed. I might have sprinkled a few in.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2026-2040

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU CRAIPILLOT 2023

(93-95)

The 2023 Gevrey-Chambertin Craipillot 1er Cru has a tangibly mineral bouquet that seeps through the airy brambly red fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, perfectly judged acidity, a silky-smooth texture and a pixelated finish. Frankly, I was not prepared for how well this Premier Cru performs. Superb.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2026-2044

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU

CLOS PRIEUR 2023

(92-94)

The 2023 Gevrey-Chambertin Clos Prieur 1er Cru has an intense bouquet with more black fruit than to the Au Clos or Craipillot, and also more presence and depth. The palate is medium-bodied with a creamy texture. It is slightly richer and more opulent in style, though it retains balance with touches of white pepper and clove toward the finish. Excellent.

- By Neal Martin on November 2024

Drinking windows: 2027-2045