



2013
VINTAGE
OFFERING

BY OLIVIER BERNSTEIN PREMIERS & GRANDS CRUS

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

“To have become a winemaker through choice rather than because of familial expectation is a distinctive – and liberating – position to be in.” —Olivier Bernstein

Burgundy: Olivier’s True Passion

Olivier Bernstein comes from a family of classical music publishers and left a promising international career with the TVG to follow an overriding passion: to become a vigneron. He obtained a degree in viticulture and oenology in Beaune and immersed himself in hands-on, intensive study in Burgundy. After working harvest at Domaine Rouget during the 2002 vintage, which enabled him to meet the late Henri Mayer, Olivier moved to Roussillon to found his own Domaine, Mas de la Devèze. Olivier bought a tractor and did all the work himself, learning by doing. His small production delighted some of France’s finest restaurants and sold out quickly. Working through good importers, Le Mas de la Devèze swiftly established itself across five continents. Olivier spent the next five years perfecting his methods as a true vigneron. He remains devoted to the values that the Bernstein family considers essential: hard work, unrelenting rigor and creativity.

In 2007 Olivier returned to his first love – Burgundy. Once back in Beaune, he established the négociant business which bears his name with the sole objective of producing very small quantities of very high quality premiers and grands crus exclusively. Since then, Olivier has managed to get close to his vineyard sources. He now manages the vineyard work for all but one of his sources and has been able to purchase two plots in vineyards he has worked with for several vintages – Gevrey-Chambertin Premier Cru “Les Champeaux” and in Mazis Chambertin Grand Cru – a rare and remarkable opportunity in Burgundy. These vineyards follow the common thread of old vines – more than 80 years old in the case of the Mazis – which enables Olivier to obtain excellent raw material.

Philosophy: Selecting the Perfect Climats

Olivier’s seven grands crus and three premiers crus have a wealth of old vines, which are fundamental to the quality of his wines. All vineyard plots, save one, are at least 40 years old; most are between 60 and 80 years old. While officially acting with négociant status, Olivier and his team take responsibility for the vineyard work on their plots, avoiding chemical treatments, adhering to “lutte raisonnée,” or “reasoned intervention,” only when necessary. Grass grows between the vines to reduce rainwater saturation and encourage soil microbial health. The team passes through the vineyards at the time of the veraison to thin out any bunches which do not meet Olivier’s rigorous

quality requirements. This enables him to pick healthy grapes at optimum ripeness and good phenolic maturity.

“Viticulture is the very basis of everything. We cultivate selected plots of old vines (40 years of age or more) and truly very old vines (60 to 80 years old) that are naturally balanced and give small yields. To get grapes of excellent quality and perfect health, the work in the vineyard is absolutely fundamental – and unstinting. Aerating the rootstock, trimming the leaf canopy, green harvesting, fall harvest at perfect maturity using small trays (les caissettes), selection of only perfectly healthy grapes – these are some of the techniques which aim at a single objective – to obtain the very best grapes possible. . . For us, the work is done in the vineyards. It is impossible to make a great wine without a great grape,” affirms Olivier.

During vinification the wines are very lightly handled, with a good proportion of stems included to maintain a lively thread throughout, while the barrels are made to order by master cooper Stéphane Chassin, who comes to taste the new vintage before deciding what type of toasting will suit each individual wine. The premier and grand cru wines are matured in new wood from the start. This takes place in the new Bernstein headquarters: marvelous, reconditioned old cellars in the heart of Beaune.



Olivier Bernstein followed his passion to become a vigneron. *“Viticulture is the very basis of everything. I primarily select very old vines which are naturally balanced and give small yields . . . work in the vineyards is absolutely fundamental. . .”* says Olivier.

THE WINES

Chambolle-Musigny “Les Lavrottes” 1er Cru

The only young vines of the domaine (15 years old), the “Lavrottes” is a very small vineyard situated below Bonnes-Mares. The name of this climat comes from the fact that there once was a lava quarry here which is now filled in. To our knowledge, we are the only ones to bottle this climat under its lieu-dit name. It is in some ways our “Monopole.”

Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Champeaux” 1er Cru

In 2012 we were able to acquire ownership of the parcel which we had been working since 2007. These are old vines, 55 years in age. “Champeaux” signifies “small parcels of vines or small pieces of ground.”

Gevrey-Chambertin “Les Cazetiers” 1er Cru

The “Cazetiers” is located high on the slope near the châteaux (castles) and means “fortified point or place.” Here we work with very old vines, 80 years old.

Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru

We have an assemblage of vines of 40 years in age from several parcels in Charmes-Chambertin and Mazoyères-Chambertin. It seems that it was the trees that have given their names to these parcels.

Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru

Very old vines, 80 years in age, situated in the midst of the more prestigious Clos de la Bourgogne that was constructed by the monks of the Abbey of Cîteaux and dates back to 1098.

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

This grand cru in the village of Morey-Saint-Denis owes its name to the presence of rocks which crop up on the surface of the soil. The vines in the parcel which we work are at least 50 years old.

Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru

The only other grand cru of Chambolle-Musigny (along with Le Musigny), the origin of this climat is not certain. One can, nevertheless, think of “Bonnes-Mères,” the vines probably having belonged to a religious order. The land that we work is situated in the commune of Chambolle-Musigny, with vines attaining some 50 years in age.

Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru

Here we have gathered very old vines of up to 80 years in age in parcels in Mazis-Haut and in Mazis-Bas, of which we are proprietors – as with “Les Champeaux” – since 2012. The grand cru of Gevrey-Chambertin got its name because of the existence of a hamlet that disappeared during the Middle Ages. “Mazis” derives from “Mas,” signifying a country house.

Chambertin Clos-de-Bèze Grand Cru

Adjacent to Mazis-Chambertin, this clos, which belonged to the Abbey of Bèze, is one of the oldest in Burgundy, dating from the 7th century. We cultivate a parcel of old vines with an average age of some 60 years. “A hand of iron in a glove of velvet” is often said of the wines from this climat.

Chambertin Grand Cru

The story is that the renaming of Clos-de-Bèze inspired a neighbor of the clos to become a vigneron. Monsieur Bertin, whose name of German origin means “the son of Bert, the Brilliant,” planted vines in his field, rather than grains. He used seedlings from his neighbors and adopted their methods of working the vineyard. Success was not long in coming and ended with naming the field (“champ”) of Bertin, “Chambertin.” We cultivate a parcel of old vines 60 years in age in this climat.

CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY
1^{er} CRU “LES LAVROTTES”

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN
1^{er} CRU “LES CHAMPEAUX”

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GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN
1^{er} CRU “LES CAZETIERS”

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CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN
GRAND CRU

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

CLOS DE VOUGEOT
GRAND CRU

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

CLOS DE LA ROCHE
GRAND CRU

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

BONNES-MARES
GRAND CRU

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN
GRAND CRU

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

2013

CHAMBERTIN CLOS-DE-BÈZE
GRAND CRU

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CHAMBERTIN
GRAND CRU

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2013

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Maison Olivier Bernstein (Beaune)

2013 Bonnes Mares Grand Cru	red	(92-94)
2013 Chambertin Grand Cru	red	(93-96)
2013 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze Grand Cru	red	(93-95)
2013 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Lavrottes" 1er	red	(90-92)
2013 Charmes-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes Grand Cru	red	(91-93)
2013 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru	red	(92-94)
2013 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru	red	(91-94)
2013 ➔ Gevrey-Chambertin "Champeaux" 1er	red	(91-93)
2013 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Cazetiers" 1er	red	(90-92)
2013 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru	red	(92-95)

"Olivier Bernstein considers 2013 to have had 'one of the most complicated growing seasons that I have had and we didn't even have the hail in the Côte de Nuits that my colleagues did in the Côte de Beaune. May was terrible and June not much better and the flowering was troubled. Without exception the work in the vineyards was both demanding and hard because there were many periods that you couldn't enter into them with machinery. We began picking on the 29th of September and we didn't have much sorting but only because we made 3 passes through the vineyards in August to drop anything that appeared rot-tinged or had no chance of becoming ripe. I'm happy we did that because September wasn't great but it was just enough to bring the fruit to a reasonable level of phenolic maturity. We did our normal vinification because the fruit that we saved was of fine if not perfect quality. Consistent with this quality we used around 50% whole clusters on average. As to the wines themselves I honestly didn't know what to think as they didn't seem especially promising before the malos finished but once they did, they have progressively become more and more interesting. My present sense is that 2013 is not a great vintage but it's at least very good and could even be excellent. Time will tell in any case.' Bernstein underscored that because his wines are bottled with slightly higher levels of CO₂, he suggests that readers decant them if they're going to open bottles early on." (Wilson Daniels, www.wilsondaniels.com, St. Helena, CA; Berry Brothers & Rudd, www.bbr.com, UK).

2013 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Lavrottes": (from 15+ year old vines). Here too a subtle application of wood sets off the airy nose of plum, violet, spice and various dark berry fruit aromas. The middle weight flavors possess a silky mouth feel as well as fine vibrancy on the muscular finish that delivers solid complexity and persistence. Lovely. (90-92)/2021+

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin "Champeaux": (from 70+ year old vines). This is even more aromatically complex with its restrained, pure and cool array of red and dark berry, underbrush, earth and sauvage elements. There is a velvety mouth feel yet fine precision to the more evident mineral-driven medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sap that also serves to buffer the moderately firm tannic spine on the lingering and balanced finish. This is really quite good. (91-93)/2023+

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin "Les Cazetiers": The aromatic profile is similar to that of the Champeaux but is even more floral in character. The mouth feel of the medium-bodied flavors is quite finely detailed with a bit more minerality as well that terminates in a lingering finish where the less evident supporting tannins don't seem to be quite as ripe. Still, there is no dryness or astringency so I don't see this as a real issue. (90-92)/2021+

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2013 Charmes-Chambertin Vieilles Vignes: (from both Charmes and Mazoyères). This is also notably floral with its cool mix of red and dark currant aromas that are liberally laced with notes of earth, game and wood nuances. There is fine power, punch and detail to the muscular medium weight flavors that possess an unusually refined mouth feel, all wrapped in a dusty, complex and impressively persistent finish. Good as this is, the Champeaux is just as interesting though in fairness I should note that it doesn't have quite the same size and weight as does the Charmes. (91-93)/2025+

2013 Clos de Vougeot: The unobtrusive wood treatment serves as a backdrop for the ripe and fresh aromas of dark berries, plum, violet and sandalwood. The unusually supple mid-palate of the middle weight plus flavors is deceptive as the austere and beautifully complex finish immediately tightens up while displaying the typical youthful austerity of a young Clos de Vougeot. This should be approachable after only a few years if desired. (91-94)/2025+

2013 Clos de la Roche: (from Monts Luisants and Clos de la Roche proper). The wood treatment is slightly more prominent compared to that of the Clos de Vougeot even if it remains relatively soft and certainly allows the ripe, fresh and layered aromas of plum, earth, spice and leather aromas to be easily appreciated. There is excellent intensity to the rich, opulent and delicious large-scaled flavors that possess plenty of muscle before culminating in a dusty, mouth coating and impressively persistent finish. This too should be approachable young but age effortlessly well too. (92-94)/2025+

2013 Bonnes Mares: (from terres rouges in Chambolle). Here too there is a subtle trace of wood sitting atop the intensely floral and spicy aromas of plum and dark currant. There is an earth component running the length of the textured, concentrated and muscular broad-shouldered flavors that possess fine mid-palate density, all wrapped in a firmly tannic but not especially austere or rustic finale. Good stuff but note well that patience will be essential. (92-94)/2028+

2013 Mazis-Chambertin: (from Mazis Hauts and Bas and includes more than just domaine fruit in the blend). Once again there is just enough oak treatment present to warrant noting as it that serves as a backdrop for the distinctly different aromatic profile that includes scents of the sauvage, humus, earth, exotic tea, violets and a cool mix of red and dark pinot fruit. The lush yet brooding, dense, concentrated and overtly muscular flavors that exude evident minerality on the complex, long and impressively scaled finish. This beauty of a Mazis is unapologetically built to age and will require it. (92-95)/2028+

2013 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze: This is at once spicier still though notably less sauvage with ample floral characters adding a sense of elegance to the red currant aromas that express plenty of classic Gevrey elements. The rich, intense and powerful middle weight plus flavors possess an appealing sense of energy on the strikingly persistent finish. This isn't quite as concentrated as the Mazis but it's finer and classier. (93-95)/2028+

2013 Chambertin: This is also relatively spicy if not as openly as the Bèze with its intensely earthy and floral aromas of red currant, dark pinot and game nuances, all of which are trimmed in a subtle touch of oak. The ripe yet distinctly cool and restrained big-bodied and brooding flavors seem as though they're constructed on a firm base of minerality before terminating in an explosively long finish. This is a classic Chambertin that is impeccably well-balanced and built-to-age. (93-96)/2030+

"Note: Wines receiving an ➡(arrow) symbol are particularly outstanding for their respective appellations and especially merit your attention; readers should note that grands crus stand on their own and receive no further distinction."

The 2013 Red Burgundies *by Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Maison Olivier Bernstein

2013 Chambolle-Musigny Les Lavrottes

(88-90)

"Bright red-ruby. Pungent aromas of wild blackberry, boysenberry and minerals show very good lift. Spicy black fruit flavors are framed by bracing acidity and given a rather austere edge by notes of pepper and herbs. This will need a few years of patience." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Champeaux 1er Cru

(89-92)

"Bright, dark red. Deep, sappy aromas of black raspberry, animal fur, game and coffee. A step up in richness of fruit from the village wines, showing more stuffing to support its acidity. Still quite primary, this wine displays an oaky sweetness and firm tannins in the early going. Offers excellent potential." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers 1er Cru

(91-93)

"(from 80-year-old vines): Bright, dark red. Rather carnal nose hints at licorice. Fatter than the Champeaux, with sweet dark berry flavors framed and enlivened by ripe, integrated acidity. Nicely broad on the back end, finishing with fine, mouthdusting, almost creamy tannins and excellent length." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru

(90-93)

"(a 50/50 blend of true Charmes and Mazoyères): Bright, deep red. Distinctly blacker on the nose than the Cazetiers, offering scents of blackberry, violet, chocolate and espresso. Dense, silky and sweet, with lovely energy and underlying minerality to its juicy dark berry flavors. The dusty tannins saturate the plate without introducing any impression of dryness. For a grand cru, this should give pleasure relatively early." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Clos Vougeot Grand Cru

(91-94)

"Deep red with ruby highlights. Musky black fruits and violets complicated by deeper-pitched earth notes and musky underbrush. At once sweet and tangy on the palate, with vibrant flavors of berries, black cherry and dark chocolate enlivened by underlying stony minerality. Offers an exhilarating balance of sweetness and fresh acidity. Finishes broad and long, with substantial dusty tannins and lingering purple fruits." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

(92-95)

"Bright, deep red-ruby. Alluring soil-driven aromas of boysenberry, flowers and earth are reticent and refined. At once savory and sweet in the mouth, with a captivating tangy quality and terrific floral lift to the flavors of dark berries, musky minerality, leather and pepper. This wine is made from vines in the high, calcaire-rich part of this grand cru, and that's obvious in its taut, youthfully imploded character. This very fine-grained, perfumed Clos de la Roche will need patience and should be long-lived." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru

(92-95)

"Bright, dark red. Strong red soil hints of iron, musky raspberry and blueberry on the nose. Dense, sappy and seamless, with an urgent berry intensity and invigorating high notes of white pepper and noble herbs. Wonderfully delineated wine with a juicy, slow-building finish featuring serious dusty tannins that may be partly a function of the whole-cluster vinification. In a very savory style, and built to age." — *Stephen Tanzer*



The 2013 Red Burgundies (cont.) *by Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Maison Olivier Bernstein

2013 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru

(92-94)

"Good full red. Very complex nose melds raspberry, coffee, mocha, spices and wilder notes of meat and animal fur. Like liquid silk on the front half, offering sexy flavors of fruits, flowers and underbrush, then turns much more clenched — even austere and tough — on the back half. This connoisseur's wine is hiding more than it's showing today. Leaves behind scents of truffle and violet in the empty glass. I may be underrating this." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze Grand Cru

(92-95)

"Bright, dark red-ruby. Aromas of boysenberry, bitter chocolate and crushed stone, plus a more exotic suggestion of blackberry liqueur. Wonderfully silky-sweet but with real thrust and inner-mouth floral lift to the intense purple fruit flavors. This medium-bodied wine picks up a complicating minty nuance with air, and the penetrating, rising back end shows firm tannic spine and pungent minerality. Still a baby." — *Stephen Tanzer*

2013 Chambertin Grand Cru

(94-96)

"Full, deep red-ruby, the darkest of these 2013s. Brilliantly pure, multifaceted, distinctly cool nose offers scents of blueberry, boysenberry, coffee, crushed rock and game. Plush, round and mouthfilling, displaying a saline complexity to the extremely rich, sharply delineated black and blue fruit flavors. The very long, slowly building finish features noble, thoroughly ripe tannins. Like most of these superb 2013s, this wine projects a sexy high-toned character."
— *Stephen Tanzer*

The 2013 & 2012 Red Burgundies *by Antonio Galloni*

Maison Olivier Bernstein

"It's quite remarkable to think how far Olivier Bernstein has come in a relatively short time. When I first met him a few years ago, Bernstein was working out of a rented cellar in Gevrey and buying fruit. Today, Bernstein has a small but newly renovated winery in the center of Beaune and owns parcels in Mazis and Champeaux. Bernstein has turned out a gorgeous set of 2013s. As always, the wines are racy and forward, but in 2013, the cool, late year gave the wines super-expressive aromatics and a pulsating acidity to balance the intensity of the fruit. The 2013s were done with around 50% whole clusters, although the Bonnes-Mares saw 80% stems."

2013 Chambertin Grand Cru

(93-96)

"A huge wine, the 2013 Chambertin makes a strong entrance with its voluptuous fruit and pure, unbridled intensity. The Chambertin is the deepest and most resonant of the Grand Crus, but at the same time, it is wonderfully polished throughout. Layers of blue and black stone fruits are sculpted and articulate." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru

(92-95)

"The 2013 Mazis-Chambertin is the most graceful and delicate of the Grand Crus. Exotic and silky on the palate, the 2013 wafts from the glass with a classic expression of Mazis. An ethereal bouquet of sweet red berries and flowers melds seamlessly on to the palate, where the overall impression is of perfume, silkiness and persistence." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze Grand Cru

(93-96)

"Density, structure and pulsating energy collide in Bernstein's 2013 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze, a visceral, thrilling wine endowed with tons of pure personality. Violets, lavender and spices wrap around the dark finish. Today, the Bèze comes across as quite raw and not fully formed, but that is not too surprising given the personality of this site. Still, readers should be prepared to cellar the 2013 for at least a handful of years." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru

(92-95)

"Today, the 2013 Bonnes-Mares literally pulsates in the palate with brilliance and energy. Black cherry jam, hard candy, violets, cinnamon and menthol gradually open up in the glass, but today the wine is dominated by its acidity and structural elements. Both of those qualities will help the 2013 age gracefully, but today, the Bonnes-Mares is mostly a wine of potential. Significant potential." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

(93-96)

"Crushed rocks, chalk, graphite, smoke and black plums are some of the many notes that emerge from the 2012 Clos de la Roche. Here the style is distinctly mineral and savory, with less in the way of fruit, but more than enough energy and vibrancy to support years of fine drinking. The long, pulsating finish points to a bright future. This is another terrific effort from Olivier Bernstein." — *Antonio Galloni*



The 2013 & 2012 Red Burgundies (cont.) *by Antonio Galloni*

Maison Olivier Bernstein

2013 Clos Vougeot Grand Cru

(91-94)

"The 2013 Clos Vougeot is remarkably polished and harmonious. Expressive red stone fruits, iron and crushed flowers are laced together in an absolutely impeccable wine endowed with true personality and class. The typically firm Clos Vougeot tannins are there, but they are pretty much covered by the sheer intensity of the fruit. At once distinctive and super-expressive, the Clos Vougeot is another of the stands outs in the range." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru

(91-94+)

"The 2013 Charmes-Chambertin stands out for its intense minerality and energy. Crushed rocks, sage, chalk, spice and dark red stone fruits open up in a deep, powerful Burgundy endowed with notable class. It's pretty clear the 2013 is showing just a bare hint of its potential today. Still, from time to time, the wine's pedigree comes through loud and clear. Bernstein's Charmes is a blend of 60% true Charmes and 40% Mazoyères." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Chambolle-Musigny Les Lavrottes

(90-92)

"The 2013 Chambolle-Musigny Les Lavrottes is sexy and voluptuous to the core. Sweet, silky tannins meld around a core of radiant fruit. Dark red cherry, plum, wild flowers and mint all open up in the glass. The inclusion of 50% whole clusters gives the 2013 an extra kick of brightness and saline-driven freshness." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Champeaux 1er Cru

(90-92)

"Dark blue and black fruit, smoke and savory herbs flesh out in the Gevrey-Chambertin Les Champeaux. Beams of salinity and minerality give the 2013 much of its sense of proportion. There is plenty of stuffing here, all the 2013 needs is more time to fully come together. Sage, mint and smoke are some of the notes that reappear on the finish." — *Antonio Galloni*

2013 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers 1er Cru

(91-93)

"The 2013 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers, from one of the very best sites in Gevrey, is wonderfully lifted and perfumed. Here, the energy of the vintage is expressed through a more understated set of textures and flavors. Red cherry, plum and floral notes grace the bright finish. This is a terrific example of the year." — *Antonio Galloni*

OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

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