

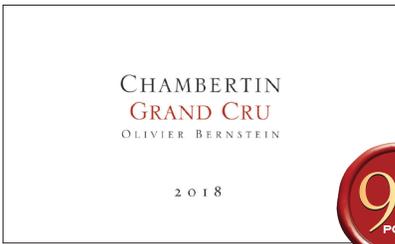


# OLIVIER BERNSTEIN

## 2018 PREMIERS & GRANDS CRUS

ANTONIO GALLONI

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### Grand Cru - Chambertin 2018

The 2018 Chambertin Grand Cru is a dense, powerful wine that is going to need the better part of a decade to soften. Tannic and brooding, the 2018 is in no mood to show all its cards today. There is good depth and tons of intensity, but the tannins are overpowering at this stage.



### Grand Cru - Chambertin-Clos de Bèze 2018

The 2018 Chambertin-Clos de Bèze Grand Cru is a Burgundy of tremendous substance, power and resonance. Whereas the Chambertin is a bit compact, the Bèze explodes out of the glass, showing tremendous vertical intensity and energy to burn. Inky blue/purplish fruit, lavender, menthol, licorice and sage give the Bèze a good deal of aromatic intensity. Patience will be rewarded.



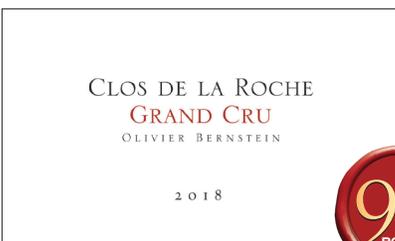
### Grand Cru - Mazis-Chambertin 2018

The 2018 Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru is an exotic beauty. A rush of sweet red berry fruit, blood orange, mint, dried flowers and rose petal soars out of the glass. The 2018 offers that aromatic brightness that is so typical of Mazis, but with the textural richness that has long been a signature of these wines. Here, too, cellaring is absolutely essential. The 2018 is a total knock-out.



### Grand Cru - Bonnes Mares 2018

The 2018 Bonnes Mares Grand Cru is a wild, powerful wine. Dried herbs, chalk, mint, white pepper and dried flowers give the 2018 its distinctive aromatic profile. Translucent and classically austere, the Bonnes Mares is another wine in this range that is not ready yet to show all its cards. It will be interesting to see how the 2018 develops in bottle and if more fruit emerges with time. Overall, this feels a bit light for Bonnes Mares.



### Grand Cru - Clos de La Roche 2018

The 2018 Clos de La Roche Grand Cru is a seriously beautiful wine. Bright acids and veins of underlying minerality play off a core of dark fruit in a dense, dramatic Burgundy that offers tons of intrigue. Dark fruit, espresso, licorice, gravel and menthol add a feeling of gravitas to a Burgundy with serious baritone inflections and tons of power in reserve.



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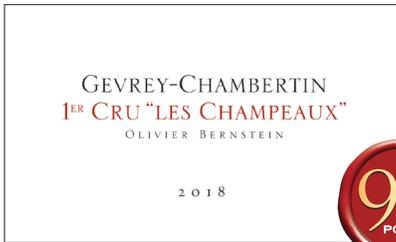
### Grand Cru - Clos de Vougeot 2018

The 2018 Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru is soft, fruity and forward, in other words quite accessible for this site, where wines tend to be a bit hard in the early going. Crushed rose petal, spice, mint and blood orange give the 2018 lovely aromatic dimension to play off a core of bright red berry fruit. The 2018 will be easy to enjoy with minimal cellaring for a Grand Cru Burgundy. If opened young, it needs a bit of air for a touch of reduction to blow off.



### Grand Cru - Charmes-Chambertin 2018

The 2018 Charmes-Chambertin Grand Cru is striking. Lavender, sage, mint and licorice play off a core of inky blue/purplish berry fruit. Bright acids and a spine of tannin lend energy and vibrancy throughout. Today, the Charmes is a bit closed. That should not be an issue in time, but readers should plan on cellaring it for a good few years. I very much like the sense of translucence here.



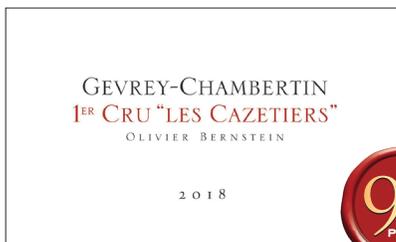
### Premier Cru - Gevrey-Chambertin Les Champeaux 2018

The 2018 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Champeaux 1er Cru is a rich, heady wine. Succulent dark cherry, plum, espresso, mint and licorice give the 2018 a decidedly exotic character to play off its soft curves and voluptuous personality. A few years in bottle should help the baby fat melt away. The ripeness of the year is very much present.



### Premier Cru - Chambolle-Musigny Les Lavrottes 2018

The 2018 Chambolle-Musigny Les Lavrottes 1er Cru is bright and aromatically lifted, but also quite reticent. Far from a sensual, open-knit Chambolle, the Lavrottes is going to need a number of years to be at its most expressive. Time in the glass brings out hints of rose petal, mint, sage and a whole range of whole cluster inflections and good brightness, all of which add complexity and character.



### Premier Cru - Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers 2018

The 2018 Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers 1er Cru shows why this site is so highly regarded. Effusive and silky, with striking aromatic presence and impeccable balance, the 2018 is compelling. Sweet red and purplish fruit, spice and floral notes are pushed forward. In 2018, the Cazetiers is a wine of pure and total seduction. Everything about the 2018 speaks to balance and harmony.



### Grand Cru - Corton-Charlemagne 2018

The 2018 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru is rich, textured and wonderfully inviting. Dried pear, chamomile, yellow flowers, tangerine oil and light tropical accents infuse the 2018 with notable character. Readers will find a Corton-Charlemagne that offers a level of textural richness and oiliness that are not often found in Corton-Charlemagne. Bright saline notes appear with a bit of aeration, but the 2018 is mostly a wine that emphasizes showiness and allure. There is plenty of both