

# DOMAINE DE LA ROMANÉE-CONTI

2021 VINTAGE OFFERING



WILSON DANIELS

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WILSON DANIELS HAS PROUDLY REPRESENTED  
DOMAINE DE LA ROMANÉE-CONTI  
EXCLUSIVELY IN THE U.S. SINCE 1979

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## 2021 VINTAGE HARVEST REPORT

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The winter 2020/2021 was mild. In February, we saw a return of the cold which delayed the rise of sap. In the vineyards, beautiful, dry weather set in and allowed us to carry out quietly and perfectly all the winter vineyard work: first pruning, ploughing, tying down. We were ahead everywhere.

Budburst began a little later than in recent years, at the end of March. All was going well at the beginning of the season, but this was without taking into account Mother Nature, who was preparing for us one of the lessons she regularly takes upon herself to give.

On the nights of April 6, 7, and 8, a winter-like frost hit the vineyards. In addition, a heavy snowfall occurred during the night of the 7th which dampened the buds and left them vulnerable to frost. Damage was severe throughout the whole of Burgundy.

In Vosne-Romanée, we lost half of the crop. Our vineyards in Côte de Beaune were more severely affected: in Corton we lost 80% of a normal crop, and in Montrachet and Corton-Charlemagne, we lost 90%.

The rest of the season remained challenging. Spring was extremely rainy and quite hot. As a result, the vines grew in a way never seen before. All the vineyard work (tying-up, de-budding, tying down), were extremely disrupted. Our team had great difficulty keeping up with the pace imposed by these extraordinary seasonal weather conditions.





Diseases did not fail to emerge; mildew and especially oïdium, which appeared in an unusually aggressive manner, arrived as early as May and lasted until the harvest. Botrytis, not to be outdone, appeared in July, but was fortunately contained by low temperatures. In September, the rainy weather persisted but gradually improved, and we were lucky to harvest the fruit in good weather, from September 23 to October 2. The harvest had been damaged by frost and diseases, making the usual “haute couture” sorting even more necessary, but maturity was in the end satisfactory.

The difficult season resulted in yields that are among the lowest we have had for half a century:

- in Vosne-Romanée: around 15hl/ha, but with differences depending on the vineyards: in Romanée-Conti for instance, or in Grands Échézeaux, yields are 22-23 hl/ha, far less in other vineyards.
- in Corton (red): yields are around 4.5 hl/ha, the same as in Corton-Charlemagne.
- in Montrachet: instead of the usual 10 barrels, we have only four, from a yield of around 7hl/ha.

In conclusion, this vintage has required as much work and effort as any other one, if not more, considering the three nights spent up in the vineyard, lighting candles and fighting against the frost, but this is part of the vigneron's life. Nevertheless, we are quite pleased: the quality of the wines is good. Their style can be compared to the wines we produced in the 1970s and 80s: wines less powerful, but in return finer, more delicate and elegant than the latest richer and opulent vintages from very ripe harvests.

We remain with the hope that the vines, left to recover from the exhaustive growing season, will want to make up for this year, and will next year give us one of those beautiful harvests which fills the heart of the vigneron.



## CUVÉE DUVAUT-BLOCHET

Lesser known but brought to light again this year are the few holdings that the Domaine owns in the village of Vosne-Romanée. For the seventh time since 1999, the Domaine is releasing a small number of bottle of its premier cru holdings. The name is a tribute to Jacques-Marie Duvault-Bloch, founder of the Domaine de la Romanée-Conti as we know it today and ancestor of Aubert de Villaine.



## CORTON

Since November 11, 2008, the Domaine has consented to lease the AOC Corton Grand Cru vineyards of Domaine Prince Florent de Merode, for a total of 2.2746 hectares in the climats of Clos du Roi, Bressandes and Renardes. Clos du Roi: 0.5721 hectares; Bressandes: 1.1944 hectares; Renardes: 0.5081 hectares



## ÉCHÉZEAUX

Of all the Domaine's wines, this is the most forward. It opens up sooner than the others, with a ravishing clarity of expression, uncomplicated and cleanly etched; a caressing softness cloaks a steely skeleton which permits it to evolve with elegance. He is the younger brother of Grands Échézeaux, the glorious elder whose fortune Échézeaux aspires to equal. It sometimes comes very close when it speaks with the muscular language of the conquistadors. Surface area: 4.6737 hectares



## GRANDS ÉCHÉZEAUX

It is "Grands" before being Échézeaux. It is a country gentleman, aristocrat and dreamer, who idles willingly with the unhurried step of his horse in a forest filled with the scents of sundry mushrooms, moss, decaying leaves and of furtive small game, which spill forth in a multitude of shifting alliances. All of that is expressed with feeling, in a refined language — musical, concise and pure like the message of a Mozart quartet. Surface area: 3.5263 hectares



## ROMANÉE-ST-VIVANT

Romanée-St-Vivant is flirtatious; one cannot help loving it. Behind this grace resides a strength in such perfect balance that, at first, it is imperceptible. Surface area: 5.2858 hectares







## RICHEBOURG

This immediate neighbor of la Romanée-Conti escorts Her Majesty with good-natured ribaldry. It is a king's musketeer who likes company, likes to laugh and to sing, to feel that the somewhat brutal strength of his athlete's body is admired. Surface area: 3.5110 hectares



## LA TÂCHE

Nothing evokes La Tâche so much as the wonderful portrait of Richelieu by Philippe de Champaigne, which expresses the Cardinal's fiery and angular authority, a nervous hand posed on the hilt of his sword, while the sword itself is drowned in a luxurious cascade of ermine and velvet. La Tâche is elegance and rigor. Beneath the frequent firmness of its tannins, passion is aflame, restrained by an implacable, courtly elegance. Surface area: 6.0620 hectares



## ROMANÉE-CONTI

"As if, in this square of earth, the gods had bequeathed us a memory of the fascinating vestige of a timeless perfection." — *Richard Olney*

The wine of Prince de Conti, she is velvet, seduction and mystery. It is the most Proustian of all great wines: Concealed in the secret perfume of fading rose petals of a Romanée-Conti 1956, is it not the intense and pure sensation of the recaptured past which arrests and enchants us? Surface area: 1.8140 hectares



## MONTRACHET

"Incontestably of the first order of white wines from the Côte d'Or and probably of all the white wines of the world." — *Dr. Lavalle 1855*

Le Montrachet is a wine of unparalleled complexity, its elegance and power make an exceptional wine. Surface area: 0.6759 hectares



## CORTON-CHARLEMAGNE

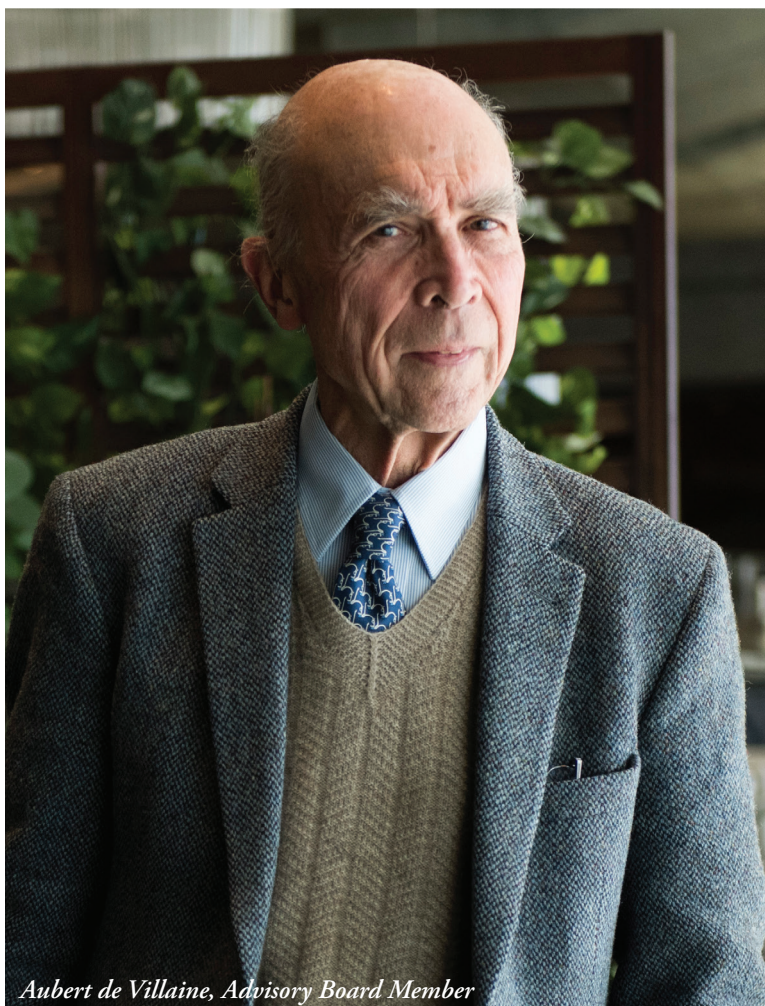
The Domaine was able to gain access to over 2.9ha of vines after the harvest of 2018 and is presenting here its first ever vintage of Corton-Charlemagne. Their four plots are located in the two Lieux-dits Le Charlemagne in Aloxe-Corton and En Charlemagne in Pernand-Vergelesses. With one plot on top of the hill, one at the foot of the hill and the last two plots half way through the slopes, the Domaine's Corton-Charlemagne will present a perfect picture of what this famous hill can offer. Surface area: 2.9142 hectares



*Perrine Fenal, Co-Director*



*Bertrand de Villaine, Co-Director*



*Aubert de Villaine, Advisory Board Member*







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