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2021 Burgundy: Côte de Beaune tasting notes

By Sarah Marsh MW



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Domaine de la Pousse d'Or

In 2018, the domaine was certified biodynamic by Demeter and certified organic, but it has been working this way since 1997. Everything is destemmed and goes through an optical sorting machine. Pousse d'Or favors whole berries, with a cold-maceration of seven days, but longer in 2021, since it was slower to release color. 20% new oak in general. Intriguingly, after fermentation, three cuvées were matured separately in barrique and in 800-liter amphora. The amphorae give a pure, fruity, and elegant expression of the terroir.

In addition to the Côte de Beaune vineyards, which includes three monopoles in Volnay, the domaine has some pretty impressive *climats* in the Côte de Nuits. Of the 42 acres (17.2ha), 30 acres (12ha) are in the Côte de Beaune. I liked the Chambolle Amoureuses and, especially, the Clos de la Roche, which showed excellent vigor and cold sapidity. The various Caillerets were the best I tasted in 2021.

Volnay Premier Cru En Caillerets Clos des 60 Ouvrées (Monopole) Cuvée Amphore

Floral, with a light note of raspberry. Keen, lean, and bright, with a lively, spirited, and airy feel. Gossamer-light texture. Intense fruit and balletic. It just pirouettes onto the finish. So refined. 2026–35.

95

Volnay Premier Cru Le Caillerets

Warm, strawberry-field aroma, with white flowers, even white pepper. Airy and rounded, it has a light bite and crunch. Some grip and spice, with a chalky-dry, mineral freshness to finish. 2025–30+.

94

Volnay Premier Cru Le Caillerets Cuvée Amphore

High-toned red fruit. Bright, slim-textured, with light, refined tannins. Focuses on minerality. It is precise, trim, and just shimmers on the finish. 2026–35. **94**

Volnay Premier Cru Clos d'Audignac (Monopole)

From a north-northeast slope, with north-south facing rows. A cooler exposition but sheltered by the walls and the house. It misses the sunshine in the evening. Probably a good vineyard with climate change, but I found it showed well in this cooler vintage. Good concentration of sweet-cherry fruit, while so fresh and concentrated. Very lively but contained. I like the sweet/fresh cut to this wine. Energetic, with a good follow-through. 2026–34. **94**

Bonnes Mares Grand Cru

On the red soil. A rich, full, and dense palate. Lightly muscular, with dark fruit and a chocolate richness. Follows though very nicely, with a seductive, smooth, and well-sustained finish. 2027–35. **97**

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru

Much more restrained and austere. Compact and tight. Layered. Long and cold finish. Savory sapidity. Such a cool, mineral feel. Taste the soil. 2027–40. **97–98**