

## 2002 JADOT RED BURGUNDY

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The 2002 vintage in Burgundy continues to receive acclaim as one of the best vintages, along with 1999, in recent times. The wines are expressively fruity, and have substance, while being approachable. As such they have immediate consumer appeal, and it looks likely that they will retain it throughout their lives. To appreciate how successful the vintage has been, it is necessary to look at the wines across the major appellations, as well as up and down the hierarchy of vineyard ranking. The ideal way to do this is by tasting a range of wines from one of the best wine growers and negociants. Maison Louis Jadot offers such a range. With around 60 hectares of land in prime sites, as well as sources of top fruit and wine from throughout Burgundy, Jadot covers all bases. And, of course, the quality and typicity from Louis Jadot has been impeccable for years.

Regional Wines has received a full range of each Louis Jadot vintage for nearly a decade, and the 2002s looked particularly exciting. The tasting of the red burgundies was well subscribed. Following are my notes on the wines tasted. They were served blind in the order as noted:

### Flight One: Cote de Beaune Premier Cru

A flight of relatively mixed wines in style and quality. Reasonably well-received as a group, some wines youthful, others quite approachable now. They range from simpler, but attractive wines to some with complexities. Brettanomyces noticeable on two. All of the wines showing fruit flavours in the soft red fruits spectrum, typical of Cote de Beaune.

**Jadot Volnay 'Clos des Chenes' 2002** (Not Domaine fruit, 13.0% alc.) Clos des Chenes is 15.41 ha, on the south side of the commune. Deepish ruby red, a touch of orange on edge. Soft, full, fragrant strawberryish nose, good depth of bouquet. Rich, deep, and quite luscious fruit with a floral and cherry, strawberry flavour. Fine tannins, quite decent in weight and extract, giving good substance. Fresh with good acidity, good length. Preferred second best of the flight by the group. My score 18.0/20

**Jadot Volnay 'Clos de la Barre' 2002** (Monopole, 13.5% alc.) An exclusivity of Jadot, 1.32 ha. Full, even, ruby red colour, with a little purple. Concentrated, deep nose with dark cherry aromas, as well as a little brett funkiness. A full, solid wine on palate, the fruit is lifted, yet shy simultaneously. Plenty of extraction and structure, possibly dumbing down the fruit expression at this stage. Good acidity. This will develop well. At present 17.0+/20

**Jadot Savigny-les-Beaune 'Dominode' 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) 7.87 ha site. Even ruby red with some purple hues. Nose a little shy but upfront simple berry aromas. Good solid wine with plenty of grip and fir acidity. Cherry and strawberry flavours, without quite the richness nor nuance to lift it. Pleasant and well-constructed. 16.0+/20

**Jadot Pommard 'Rugiens' 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) 12.5 ha site on the Volnay side. Deepish, dark ruby colour. Full, savoury, earthy nose with plenty of gaminess to the dark berry fruit. Brettanomyces noticeable, but in balance. Full-bodied wine with great weight and power. Fine, but firm tannins. Savoury, gamey flavours, funky, alongside the ripe berryish fruit. Quite dense on palate, and needs time to soften and open. Third preferred wine of the flight by the group. 17.5-/20

**Jadot Beaune 'Chouacheux' 2002** (Dom. Gagey, 13.5% alc.) From the 5.04 ha site on the Pommard side. Lighter ruby red, a little orange on edge. Lighter, simpler, strawberryish nose, some depth, very Cote de Beaune. Simpler wine, and lighter, but with clean strawberry fruit flavours and a hint of leafiness. Good fresh acidity, and sufficient tannin grip to provide a well-balanced medium to lighter wine. 16.5/20

**Jadot Beaune ‘Vignes Franches’ ‘Clos des Ursules’ 2002** (Dom. des Heritiers, 13.5% alc.) Jadot is the sole proprietor of Clos des Ursules, part of the 9.77 Vignes Franches site on the Pommard side of the commune. Lighter ruby red with a little orange to the edge. Medium nose with warm strawberry aromas, showing ripeness and a hint of savoury complexity. Fuller wine with weight, density and depth and a lovely fine texture. Ripe strawberryish fruits, with good concentration. Good firm finish. The most preferred wine of the flight by the group. My score 17.5+/20

### **Flight Two: Cote de Nuits Premier Cru**

A step above the Cote de Beaune wines, darker berryish fruit flavours coming to the fore, with good acidity and finer tannin structure. These should age well, developing greater complexities. Some of Grand Cru quality in reality.

**Jadot Chambolle-Musigny ‘Amoureuses’ 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) Site is downslope from Musigny, 5.40 ha, regarded a Grand Cru generally. Deep ruby red colour, quite deep, with a touch of orange on edge. Restrained, yet penetrating nose of floral fruit aromas. Finesse here, with a depth. Extremely fine-grained, powdery tannins, bunt underneath excellent concentration and depth of floral and cherryish fruits along with a savoury complexing note. Succulence present, but it is the power of the structure that comes through. Will develop well and unfold more fruit. The least preferred of the flight by the group. My score 18.5/20

**Jadot Nuits-St-Georges ‘Boudots’ 2002** (Dom. Gagey, 13.5% alc.) 6.30 ha site, the most northerly of the Nuits-St Georges premier crus. Good even ruby red with a touch of purple hue. Restrained nose of cherry/berry fruit aromas, quite fresh, with good depth. A lifted note on the nose. Medium to fullish bodied, obvious and open fruit flavours, moderate richness and concentration, and plenty of tannin grip. Very typical Cote de Nuits of good appeal. 18.0-/20

**Jadot Gevrey-Chambertin ‘Cazetiers’ 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) 8.43 ha next to Clos St Jacques. Deepish ruby red with a purple edge. Sweet, ripe nose of dark cherries and plums alongside a little oak lift. Beautifully rich and warm wine with great harmony, balance and finesse. Lovely concentrated and lush dark berry fruit flavours, very generous, the tannins are very fine-grained indeed, and provide the perfect cut. Very long and rich on the finish. Marvellous balance here. 19.0/20

**Jadot Gevrey-Chambertin ‘Clos St Jacques’ 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) 6.70 ha, regarded as a Grand Cru in reality. Dark, deep ruby red, youthful purple hues. Superb, fresh and ripe black cherry and sweet berry fruit aromas and a little oak lift. Quite tight and a little raw at present on palate. Masses of sweet berry fruits and dark plums and a stalky-herby freshness. The tannins are tight and very fine-grained. There is huge weight and depth here, and there are layers of flavour. Undoubtedly there is plenty to unfold. A very, very long finish. A baby needing time. The most preferred wine of the flight by the group. 19.0-/20

### **Flight Three: The Grand Crus**

With this flight came a step up in richness and weight, and for that a superior flight from the previous one. All of the wines, it was felt, could handle, if not required more time to show their best. Whilst the Cote de Nuits premier cru wines were more attractive at present, the Grand Crus promised complexity and integration in the future.

**Jadot Bonnes Mares 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) 15.06 ha, of which 13.54 ha are in Chambolle-Musigny and 1.52 ha in Morey-St-Denis. Deepish ruby red, the lightest of the flight. Very tight dark cherry and berry nose, plums and smoky charry oak notes. Very fine and concentrated with somewhat shy fruit expression, quite lush and super rich with it, however. Superbly structured with immense concentration and density. There is incredible weight and fruit packed into this wine. Gorgeous

dark fruit flavours and some savoury complexities. The least preferred for the group in this flight, but my score 19.5-/20

**Jadot Clos de Vougeot 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) The largest Grand Cru in the Cote de Nuits at 50.59 ha. Very dark ruby red, the strongest colour of the flight. Full, solid, dense nose of great power and purity of floral and dark fruit aromas, the classic cherry/berry nose. Fine textured palate, not quite the weight of the Bonnes Mares, but still quite massive as the Grand Crus can handle, beautifully expressed berry fruits, quite upfront. Good finish here. The second most preferred wine of the flight by the group. 18.5+/20

**Jadot Corton 2002** (Not Domaine fruit, 13.5% alc) The only Grand Cru red of Cote de Beaune, from 100 ha of 160 ha of Grand Cru land on Corton hill. Very dark, deep ruby red, a strong appearance. Full, sweet, lifted fruit on the nose, quite brackish and somewhat stinky (stalks?, rather than green) in nature, but still plenty of wine here. A huge wine with plenty of weight and power on the palate. Brackish flavoured fruit that is herbal and stinky, more so raw and unintegrated, and thus a little coarse. Not pretty at present. 18.0/20

**Jadot Echezeaux 2002** (Dom. Gagey, 13.5% alc.) At 37.7 ha, one of the largest Grand Crus, but second division. Ruby red with purple hues. Wonderful fragrance, ethereal, lifted, fine and elegant. Excellent depth of cherry and berry flavours with some new oak noticeable. Luscious flavours, with very fine tannins giving good structure and grip. Soft in the mouth, yet with fresh acidity. Elegant, and very long finish. 18.5/20

**Jadot Chambertin 'Clos de Beze' 2002** (Dom. Louis Jadot, 13.5% alc.) One of the greatest Grand Crus, 15.4 ha. Deep ruby red colour with purple hues. Full nose, with an almost raw power. Still componentry in many aspects, but all with quality. Full bodied, quite a massive wine, with great power and depth. The dark fruit and cherry flavours predominate, with sweeter plum notes. Raw on the palate with some alcohol noticeable. Very strong and long finishing. A wine that cries out for time. The most preferred wine of the flight by the group. 19.5/20

## **Conclusion**

A very high quality and very successful vintage for Louis Jadot in 2002 is expressed in these wines. The wines from the vintage offer much enjoyment immediately, or seem to soon. Possibly on a par with the classic 1999s? The wines show the hierarchy of vineyards and terroir of each of the different villages excellently. The Cote de Beaune wines, while showing a little variability are accessible now, generally, as are the Cote de Nuits premier crus. There is no hurry with these wines however, as they all have sufficient structure and extract to keep the wines in good condition. The Cote de Nuits showed particularly well, with the Grand Crus needing good time to develop harmony and complexity. All in all, an outstanding collection of wines, well worthy of acquiring and cellaring. To that purpose, Regional Wines has kept a set of these wines to present again in a few years time, when the wines should show some of their full potential.

Regional Wines will be conducting a tasting of a full range of White Burgundies from the 2002 vintage soon. Look out for the date for the tasting and/or the reviews.