



2021 EN PRIMEUR WILLIAM FÈVRE

“While not all of the Fèvre 2021s are excellent, a number of them are terrific and worth your interest.”

Allen Meadows, Burghound

“Didier Séguier, managing director of Domaine William Fèvre... noted that in 2021 yields were down from an average of 50hl/ha to just 18hl/ha. Yet Séguier is very happy with the quality on show. Tasting the Fèvre range in 2021 gave a wonderful opportunity to see the variations between each individual Chablis climat – the differences between, for example, Vaurorent/Montée de Tonnerre and Montmains/Vaillons are vivid in 2021.”

Andy Howard MW, Decanter Magazine

A VINTAGE FOR TERROIR LOVERS

The 2021 vintage for William Fèvre – the largest owner of village-level vines in the Chablis region – is one characterised by terroir.

In easy vintages, grapes ripen well across both the warmest and most exposed Grand Cru, and the coolest and shadiest vineyard areas alike. In more challenging vintages such as 2021, the terroir of the vineyard and the quality of the winemaking team come to the fore. As a result, choosing which Fèvre wines to add to your cellar will be best informed by your stylistic preferences.

Those who love a lean, crisp, and mineral style should consider the Chablis Villages, described by Neal Martin as “taut and focused,” and “great value for money.” Also in this vein is the Montée de Tonnerre 1er Cru, a ‘sweet spot’ for Alan Meadows described as showing “superb length on the bitter lemon and mineral-suffused finish.”

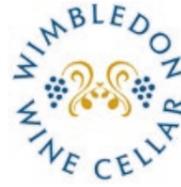
Those who prefer a richer, more rounded and succulent style of Chablis might plumb for the Vaillons 1er Cru, which to Meadows suggests “the exotic on the slightly riper aromas of pear compote, ocean spray, iodine and wet stone.” He goes on to affirm that “this beauty should age.”

Perhaps the two styles are best married this vintage in Grand Cru Les Preuses, which Neal Martin describes as having “one of my favourite aromatics from Fèvre this year with superb delineation and mineralité. The palate is harmonious and poised, very focused and tensile, plenty of energy with a touch of lime and clementine towards the persistent finish. This is an outstanding Chablis that should age supremely well in bottle.”

Whatever your decision, please note that Fèvre’s yields were half their usual levels in 2021 and, as a result, all wines are in short supply. Don’t delay placing your reserve.



2021 EN PRIMEUR PRICE LIST	2021 CASE SIZE	2021 PRICE LIST/IB	ALLEN MEADOWS (BURGHOUND)	JASPER MORRIS MW (INSIDE BURGUNDY)	ANDY HOWARD MW (DECANTER)	NEAL MARTIN (VINOUS)
VILLAGES						
St Bris (non Domaine)	6x75	£63.00				
Petit Chablis (non Domaine)	6x75	£87.00	88-91	86-88		88-90
Chablis (Domaine)	6x75	£110.00	88-91	87-89		89-91
1ER CRUS (DOMAINE WILLIAM FÈVRE)						
Beauroy (Domaine)	6x75	£235.00	89-92	91-93		88-90
Vaillons (Domaine)	6x75	£244.00	91-93 (SS)	91-93		91-93
Montmains (Domaine)	6x75	£244.00	90-93	90-92		90-92
Montée de Tonnerre (Domaine)	6x75	£335.00	92-94 (SS)	91-94	94	91-93
Vaulorent (Domaine)	6x75	£325.00	92-94 (SS)	92-94	95	90-92
GRAND CRUS (DOMAINE WILLIAM FÈVRE)						
* Bougros (Domaine)	3x75	£200.00	91-94	91-94		91-93
* Vaudésir (Domaine)	3x75	£249.00	93-95 (DM)	92-94		92-94
* Valmur (Domaine)	3x75	£249.00	93-95 (DM)	92-95		93-95
* Les Preuses (Domaine)	3x75	£258.00	93-96 (DM)	92-95	95	94-96
* Côtes de Bouguerots (Domaine)	3x75	£286.00	93-95 (DM)	92-94	95	93-95
* Les Clos (Domaine)	3x75	£325.00	93-96 (DM)	92-96		93-95
			SS = sweet spot DM = don't miss			



ALLEN MEADOWS' BURGHOUND REVIEWS

2021 Petit Chablis: (88-91)/2024+

A moderately fruity nose reflects notes of lemongrass and enough Chablis character to be attractive. There is solid concentration to the nicely detailed yet rich flavors that deliver better than average complexity on the saline, dry and lingering finale. This is really quite a good Petit Chablis.

2021 Chablis Champs Royaux: (88-90)/2024+

(A négociant wine though Séguier points out that there is always some domaine fruit in the final blend; note that Champs Royaux is a trademarked cuvée name, not the name of a vineyard). There is plenty of Chablis character present on the cool aromas of mostly citrus and apple. The delicious and plump medium-weight flavors possess a bit more volume if not quite the same depth on the wonderfully refreshing and moderately dry finale.

2021 Chablis: (from domaine fruit). (89-91)/2025+

Notes of mineral reduction and quinine add breadth to the aromas of green apple, lemonlime and discreet floral nuances. There is slightly better density to the attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that are even more saline-inflected on the balanced, dry and lingering finale. A quality Chablis villages. 2021 Chablis "Beauroy": (from Troëmes). (89-92)/2026+ This is ripe enough to have elusive suggestions of exotic fruit on the white peach, maritime and quinine. There is excellent mid-palate density to the rich, delicious and solidly intense middleweight flavors that conclude in an agreeably dry and again, very saline-suffused finish. This will need to add depth to achieve the upper end of my projected range, but it could well do that.

2021 Chablis "Montmains": (90-93)/2028+

(A domaine wine composed of ~40% Butteaux plus 30% each of Forêts and Montmains proper). An overtly floral-inflected nose displays notes of pear, apple, citrus confit and mineral reduction. There is impressive density to the rich and surprisingly powerful middleweight plus flavors that are supported by bracing lemon-tinged acidity on the more complex, long and highly refreshing finish. Good stuff and worth your interest.

2021 Chablis "Vaillons": (91-93)/2029+ (From a huge 3.5 ha holding that is composed by ~75% of Vaillons proper with the remainder from Roncières, Mélinots and Châtains). Here too there is a vague suggestion of the exotic on the slightly riper aromas of pear compote, ocean spray, iodine and wet stone. The rich, vibrant and palate coating flavors are also supported by bright acidity that carries over to the wonderfully long, youthfully austere and firm finale. This beauty should age effortlessly.

2021 Chablis "Les Lys": (91-94)/2028+

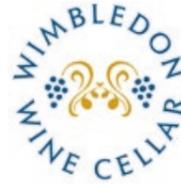
A cooler and airier array is comprised by notes of citrus, quinine and essence of algae. The ultrasleek and overtly mineral-driven flavors possess cuts-like-a-knife delineation before terminating in a chiseled, linear and moderately austere finale. This is a terrific example of Les Lys, indeed it's textbook.

2021 Chablis "Montée de Tonnerre": Sweet Spot (92-94)/2031+

From a 2.24 ha holding that is divided between Pied d'Aloup, Côte de Bréchain and Chapelot). A discreet dollop of wood sets off the equally cool and perhaps even slightly more elegant aromas of acacia, citrus, seashore and oyster shell. The sleek and highly sophisticated medium-bodied flavors possess a really lovely texture while delivering superb length on the bitter lemon and mineral-suffused finish. This beautifully balanced effort is crystalline in its purity and a wine that should repay a decade plus of keeping.

2021 Chablis "Vaulorent": Sweet Spot (92-94)/2031+

(From a huge 3.63 ha parcel out of only 17 ha and most of it is hard by Les Preuses. Séguier calls this their "baby grand cru" as specific barrels are selected for vine age, concentration and power). A much less expressive nose, indeed it is all but mute, requires aggressive swirling to eventually coax aromas of white orchard fruit, citrus blossom and seawater. The richer and slightly more powerful flavors also possess a sophisticated mouthfeel along with excellent depth and persistence on the balanced finale where a touch of youthful austerity slowly emerges. In a word, terrific.



2021 Chablis – Bougros: Sweet Spot (91-94)/2031+

(From an incredible ~6 ha parcel). This is also aromatically reserved though determined swirling slowly reveals smoky aromas of green fruit, citrus and mineral reduction. The dense and very powerful big-bodied flavors flash plenty of muscle on the palate drenching and hugely long finish. This isn't refined, in fact it's rustic but it is undoubtedly impressive in its fashion.

2021 Chablis – Vaudésir: Don't Miss (93-95)/2033+

(From two separate parcels of vines, the larger of which is in the heart of the "amphitheater" from which the finest examples of Vaudésir originate; from yields of only 15 hl/ha in 2021). Cool and strikingly elegant aromas include those of quinine, white peach, spice and an abundance of classic Chablis notes. The dense yet wonderfully refined medium-weight flavors brim with dry extract on the gorgeously long, balanced and highly complex finale. This is extremely stylish and very promising.

2021 Chablis – Valmur: Don't Miss (93-95)/2031+

(From a 1.1 ha parcel of vines that is close to Vaudésir and extends all the way from Grenouilles to the tree line at the top of the hill). This could be from nowhere else but Chablis with its nose of crushed algae, iodine, green fruit and shellfish. There is outstanding density to the broad-shouldered and muscular flavors that stain the palate while the abundant dry extract buffers the firm acid spine shaping the superbly long and highly complex finale. This is also extremely promising.

2021 Chablis – Les Preuses: Don't Miss (93-96)/2033+

From two parcels of vines that total 2.55 ha, or 22% of the entire appellation). A deft application of wood frames the beautifully elegant nose of essence of pear, green apple, acacia blossom, lemon rind and a plethora of classic Chablis scents. The dense and unusually powerful large-scaled flavors don't have the muscle of the Valmur but they're finer, all wrapped in a massively persistent and even more complex finale. As good as the Valmur is, and it's wonderful, there is just a bit more here.

2021 Chablis – Bougros "Côte Bouguerots": Don't Miss (93-95)/2033+

(From a 2.2 ha parcel at the bottom section of the vineyard; even so, the vineyard is so steep here that it must be worked entirely by hand as tractors would be dangerous to use). A cool and highly restrained nose reluctantly offers up its array of citrus, tidal pool, quinine and oyster shell. The exceptionally rich, even opulent, medium-weight plus flavors also brim with sappy dry extract on the mineral-driven, powerful and remarkably long finish. This is perhaps slightly less elegant than it typically is, but it is most impressive all the same.

2021 Chablis – Les Clos: Don't Miss (93-96)/2033+

(From 4 separate parcels totaling 4.11 ha, 3 of which are all at the top of the slope). This too could be from nowhere else other than Chablis with its combination of strong mineral reduction, cool citrus, shellfish and iodine. The dense, opulent and powerful large-bodied flavors brim with dry extract that imparts a sappy texture to the lemony and massively long finish. Not surprisingly for a classic Les Clos, this super effort is very much built-to-age and a wine that I would advise not touching for at least 6 to 8 years first.





NEAL MARTIN VINOUS REVIEWS

Petit Chablis 2021 88-90 2023-2030

The 2021 Petit Chablis, which as usual comes from purchased grapes, is due to be bottled at the end of October. It has a pleasant, grass clipping scented nose with a touch of chalk. The palate is sharp on the entry, very citric with fine salinity, the kind of Petit Chablis that should be mandatory to drink with a fresh plate of oysters!

Chablis Village Domaine 2021 89-91 2023-2030

The 2021 Chablis Village comes from 46-hectares of vines and was cropped at 20hl/ha, the vines converted to organic two years ago and due for certification next year. It has a steely nose at first, opening nicely with hints of honeysuckle and wild peaches. The palate is well balanced with a fine thread of acidity, taut and focused, plenty of energy here with an added touch of spice that enlivens the finish. No doubt this will represent great value-for money.

Chablis 1er Cru Beauroy Domaine 2021 88-90 2023-2030

The 2021 Chablis Beauroy 1er Cru comes from 1.1- hectares split over three parcels in Troisème with a southerly-orientation. It has a “sunny” bouquet with hints of yellow plum and quince, but still welldefined and focused, a light flintiness emerging with time. The palate is well balanced with ample weight, fine acidity, not terribly complex and maybe it doesn’t deliver the same definition as Fèvre’s other Premier Crus on the finish. But it should drink well for several years.

Chablis 1er Cru Montmains Domaine 2021 90-92 2025-2035

The 2021 Chablis Montmains 1er Cru comes from 3.80-hectares within the three climats, onethird each, and is generally a late-ripening cuvée. The aromatics were very primal on the nose with touches of grapefruit and grass clippings. The palate is well-balanced with a citrus thread of acidity, fairly steely with a twist of sour lemon towards the finish. Quite a penetrating Montmains, this will deserve three or four years in bottle.

Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons Domaine 2021 91-93 2024-2037

The 2021 Chablis Vaillons 1er Cru, which comes from around 12 parcels, 3.5-hectares, two-thirds within the “Vaillons” climats in the heart of the appellation. This has a slightly yeasty nose at the moment, not a million miles away from the Montmains in style. The palate is slightly different with a little more frisson and tension, just a touch more length on the finish. This should develop nicely in bottle.

Chablis 1er Cru Les Lys Domaine 2021 90-92 2024-2037

The 2021 Chablis Les Lys 1er Cru comes from a single-hectare with an anomalous north/northwest exposure that means it is usually later-ripening. It has quite an austere bouquet with touches of nettle and wet pavement, a bit “mean” compared to the Vaillons. The palate is well balanced with oyster shell and saline notes, very classically-styled; although, I just need a little more energy on the finish. But I like how the reduction works to its advantage, and it may deserve a higher score down the line.

Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre Domaine 2021 91-93 2024-2038

The 2021 Chablis Montée de Tonnerre 1er Cru comes from 2.2-hectares split over three climats with different orientations including the domaine’s oldest vines planted back in 1936. This has quite an aromatic bouquet with limestone, oyster shell and yellow plum aromas that blossom in the glass. The palate is well balanced with fine acidity, harmonious with commendable weight matched with a countervailing saline element. Bright and sparky, enjoy this delicious Chablis over the next 15 years.

Chablis 1er Cru Vaulorent Domaine 2021 90-92 2024-2037

The 2021 Chablis Vaulorent 1er Cru comes from 3.60-hectares, of course, the only Premier Cru on the same incline as the Grand Crus. The soils here are very marn. It has an energetic petrichor, slightly fumé bouquet that is very well focused. The palate is well balanced, taut and fresh with fine acidity, lemon verbena and citrus peel emerging towards the finish. Delightful, though the Montée de Tonnerre has just a little more harmony.



Chablis Grand Cru Bougros Domaine 2021 91-93 2024-2040

The 2021 Chablis Bougros Grand Cru comes from southwest facing parcels (Fèvre almost half the holdings in this Grand Cru) has a very marine-influenced bouquet with touches of granite and a light smoky note. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, nicely focused with a touch of quince complementing the citrus fruit, though I am just seeking a little more mineralité to come through on the final third.

Chablis Grand Cru Vaudésir Domaine 2021 92-94 2025-2042

The 2021 Chablis Vaudésir Grand Cru comes from 1.20-hectares, the major parcel adjacent to Moutonne, on marn soils that tends to be picked earlier than others. It has a clean and precise bouquet with citrus lemon, a hint of petrichor and orange blossom - very engaging. The palate is very well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, quite edgy with lemon rind and a touch of mandarin, taut and linear on the finish. Nice verticality here, though I would be inclined to age this in bottle for three to four years.

Chablis Grand Cru Valmur Domaine 2021 93-95 2025-2043

The 2021 Chablis Valmur Grand Cru comes from 1.1-hectares located on a vein of marn. As usual, it is a little austere and “mean” on the nose, but I like that, and it “grows” in the glass with engaging marine/oyster shell scents. The palate is very well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, taut and fresh, quite linear and strict yet building in density through to the finish. Excellent

Chablis Grand Cru Bougros ‘Côte Bouguerots’ Domaine 2020 93-95 2024-2043

The 2021 Chablis Bougros Côte Bouguerots Grand Cru, which was cropped at just 17hl/ha this year, has an intriguing bouquet with hints of peach skin and honeysuckle, the precocity of this parcel seeping through as it opens up. The palate is well balanced with a fine bead of acidity, taut and fresh, quite linear with hints of orange pith and even a dab of ginger towards the spicy, energetic finish. Excellent

Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses Domaine 2021 94-96 2025-2045

The 2021 Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru comes from 2.5-hectares split over two parcels. This has one of my favourite aromatics from Fèvre this year with superb delineation and mineralité. The palate is harmonious and poised, very focused and tensile, plenty of energy with a touch of lime and clementine towards the persistent finish. This is an outstanding Chablis that should age supremely well in bottle.

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos Domaine 2021 93-95 2024-2045

The 2021 Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru comes from 4.1 hectares mainly located on the upper sector of the Grand Cru, the vines planted in the postwar period by Maurice Fèvre, the father of William Fèvre. It has a powerful bouquet with hints of white flower permeating the citrus fruit and apple blossom aromas. The palate has wonderful salinity on the entry, a fine bead of acidity, citrus-fresh with clementine, hints of peach and a twist of bitter lemon that keeps the finish on its tippy-toes. Great potential.

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