



WILLIAM FEVRE
GRANDS VINS DE CHABLIS

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Régisseur Didier Séguier called 2019 “another hot and dry vintage that was even drier than 2018 as even the winter didn’t have much rain. Spring continued the trend and it’s not surprising that by the time summer arrived with its hot days, the vines, and particularly the young vines with less well-developed root systems, had trouble coping. There were also certain sectors that suffered frost damage and between that and the dryness, the floraison passed with difficulty. On the plus side there was no disease pressure to speak of and a small pre-harvest rainstorm that dropped around 20 ml of water really helped the vines achieve their final maturities as well as plump out the drying fruit. We chose to begin picking on the 11th of September and continued through to the 20th. The fruit could not have been any cleaner and we had relatively few sunburned berries. The reason for this is partially because the bunches were so small that the leaves helped “hide” them from the penetrating rays of the sun. Just to provide an idea, Chablis bunches typically weigh around 100 grams but in 2019, mostly came in between 50 and 60 grams, which is very light. In the end, yields were around 40 hl/ha for the *villages* wines yet only 20 to 30 hl/ha for the 1ers and *grands crus* while the Mont de Milieu gave us only 15 hl/ha. Potential alcohols were very good, ranging from 12 to 13.5% so nothing was chaptalized. Acidities were also remarkably good given the heat as the post-malo pHs came in between 3.2 and 3.25. The alcoholic fermentations presented no problems though one aspect of note is that they finished with less than 1 gram of unfermentable sugars, which is very dry. This contributes to the impression of the 2019s as being particularly dry. As to the wines, they’re ripe yet largely classic in style and their concentrations and acid backbones should permit them to age for a very long time. I would also note that the Rive Gauche is particularly good in 2019.” Séguier noted that because of the reduced yields, there will be no Fourchaume in 2019. He also indicated that the Fèvre 2018s, revisited below, were bottled between January and February 2020 without cold stabilization and using the Diam brand composite cork. (Henriot, Inc., www.henriotinc.com, NY, USA; John E. Fells and Sons, www.fells.co.uk and Berry Brothers & Rudd, www.bbr.com, both UK).

The “Sweet Spot” Wines from the 2019 vintage

- 2019 - **Chablis Bougros Grand Cru** 92-94
- 2019 – **Chablis « Mont de Milieu » 1er Cru** 91-93
- 2019 – **Chablis « Montée de Tonnerre » 1er Cru** 91-93
- 2019 – **Chablis « Vaurent » 1er Cru** 91-94

The “Don’t Miss” Wines from the 2019 vintage (5 of the top 13 “Don’t Miss” Wines are from William Fèvre)

- 2019 – **Chablis Bougros « Côte Bouguerots » Grand Cru** 93-95
- 2019 – **Chablis Les Clos Grand Cru** 93-96
- 2019 – **Chablis Les Preuses Grand Cru** 94-96
- 2019 – **Chablis Valmur Grand Cru** 92-95
- 2019 – **Chablis Vaudésir Grand Cru** 92-95



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TASTING NOTES

2019 Petit Chablis

A classically styled nose reflects plenty of Chablis character with its white orchard fruit, citrus and ocean breeze nuances. The racy, intense and well-detailed flavors are clean and quite dry though not really austere on the ever-so-slightly warm finale. **(88/2022+)**

2019 Chablis – Champs Royaux

(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). Here too there is very good Chablis typicity in evidence with notes of white flower, green apple and mineral reduction. The chalky and saline-inflected middle weight flavors possess an unusually refined texture if not stellar depth. Even so, this is definitely attractive and very Chablis in character that could be enjoyed young or held for a few years first. **(88-90)/2024+**

2019 Chablis

(from domaine fruit). This is aromatically similar to the Champs Royaux with a slightly more pronounced mineral reduction character. There is however better density and intensity to the focused yet opulent medium-bodied flavors that exhibit impressive power for a villages level wine on the slightly warm finale. Worth a look. **(88-91)/2024+**

2019 Chablis “Beuroy”: (from Troëmes)

An exceptionally fresh if decidedly ripe nose offers up notes of ripe white and yellow orchard fruit along with hints of citrus and passion fruit. The remarkably dense and rather muscular flavors possess so much dry extract that the mouthfeel is borderline chewy yet there is no sense of heaviness on the markedly dry, focused and lingering finish. This is not a wine of finesse though to be fair, refinement isn't why one buys Beuroy. **(90-92)/2025+**

2019 Chablis “Montmains”

(a domaine wine composed of ~40% Butteaux plus some Forêts and Montmains proper in roughly equal amounts). An exuberantly floral-suffused nose evidences background notes of citrus rind and enough Chablis typicity to be interesting. There is really lovely intensity to the powerful and super-saline middle weight flavors that terminate in a very dry and sleek finish. This needs to develop more depth but if it is allowed a few years of cellar time, it should progressively develop. **(90-92)/2025+**

2019 Chablis “Vaillons”

(from a huge 3.5 ha holding that is composed by ~75% of Vaillons proper with the remainder from Roncières, Mélinots and Châtains). A slightly riper and quite dense nose features notes of white pepper, quinine, mineral reduction and a combination of orchard fruit compote scents. There is excellent volume to the sappy and powerful flavors that, somewhat surprisingly, flirt with rusticity on the noticeably warm bitter lemon-inflected finish. Like the Beuroy, this is not a Vaillons of finesse, but it certainly cannot be faulted for a lack of frank character. **(89-92)/2024+**



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2019 Chablis “Les Lys”

An airier and more elegant nose freely offers up its aromas of mineral reduction, acacia, citrus and iodine. The tightly wound and notably intense flavors exude evident minerality on the powerful, bone dry and chiseled finish. This is unusually powerful for Les Lys with sneaky good length. One to consider. [\(90-93\)/2025+](#)

2019 Chablis “Mont de Milieu”

(from a .55 ha parcel). Slightly honied aromas of exotic white and yellow peach are laced with moderate amounts of classic Chablis character. Interestingly, the medium-bodied flavors are not quite as dense as those of the Les Lys though they are still notably powerful while offering just a bit more depth on the sneaky long, sappy and serious finale. At least some patience will be necessary. [\(91-93\)/2026+](#)

2019 Chablis “Montée de Tonnerre”

(from a 2.24 ha holding that is divided between Pied d’Aloup, Côte de Bréchain and Chapelot). Pale color. An admirably pure, airy and decidedly cool nose features notes of acacia, citrus zest and mineral reduction. The wonderfully refined, chalky and stony medium weight flavors possess really lovely underlying tension and fine detail while delivering excellent length where the only nit is a touch of warmth. This too will need to add depth, but the quality of the underlying material appears up to the task. [\(91-93\)/2025+](#)

2019 Chablis “Vaulorent”

(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). This could be from nowhere else but Chablis with its equally cool, elegant and airy aromas of white-fleshed fruit, floral, iodine and subtle passion fruit-scented nose. The super-sleek, refined and energetic medium weight flavors possess both ample minerality and a caressing texture, all wrapped in a slightly more complex, very dry and impressively long finale. Lovely. [\(91-94\)/2026+](#)

2019 Chablis – Bougros

(from an incredible ~6 ha parcel). A ripe and beautifully layered nose consists of notes of green fruit, citrus, iodine and mineral reduction. The powerful, rich and voluminous big-bodied flavors possess fine mid-palate density that coats the palate with sap before concluding in an austere, long and vaguely rustic finale. This is an imposing Bougros that should age effortlessly over the next decade plus. [\(92-94\)/2029+](#)

2019 Chablis – Vaudésir

(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). A riper and mildly exotic nose is still appealingly elegant while offering equally good Chablis character. The pure, refined and almost painfully intense middle weight flavors are much fine if at the expense of power on the almost pungently mineral-driven finish that is shaped by grapefruit-tinged acidity. This excellent, bone dry and chiseled effort should also age effortlessly and is a wine that’s going to need it. [\(92-95\)/2029+](#)



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2019 Chablis – Valmur

(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). A classic Chablis nose features notes of pear, green apple, iodine and sea breeze. The dense, serious and overtly powerful big-bodied flavors flash a sleek muscularity on the textured, sappy and youthfully austere finish that exhibits outstandingly length. This bad boy of a Valmur won't win any awards for refinement but it is beautifully constructed and clearly built-to-age for a very long time. **(92-95)/2031+**

2019 Chablis – Les Preuses

(from two parcels of vines that total 2.55 ha, or 22% of the entire appellation). This too could be from nowhere else except Chablis with its citrus-tinged aromas of tidal pool, white flowers and shellfish. The racy, intense and painfully intense larger-scaled flavors possess cuts-like-a-knife delineation on the bone dry and super-saline finish where a distinct bitter lemon quality slowly emerges. This is very classy juice and also built-to-age. **(94-96)/2031+**

2019 Chablis – Bougros “Côte Bouguerots”

(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). This too offers a wonderfully broad range of classic Chablis elements that include mineral reduction, iodine, ocean breeze and quinine on the citrus-infused nose. The racy, detailed and beautifully textured and focused flavors deliver outstanding length on the balanced, saliva-inducing and sneaky long finish. This is also quite classy and if not quite as complete as the Preuses in 2019, it's close and with time in bottle, it may well catch its stablemate. **(93-95)/2029+**

2019 Chablis – Les Clos

(from 4 separate parcels totaling 4.11 ha, 3 of which are all at the top of the slope). If Kimmeridgian could be distilled, it would likely smell exactly like the nose of the 2019 Les Clos with the additions of wet chalk, citrus zest and oyster shell. There is equally good delineation to the snappy, painfully intense and overtly stony large-bodied flavors that deliver superb length on the balanced finale. This elegant and classy effort is also built on a base of almost pungent minerality and a wine that is indisputably going to age effortlessly for years. **(93-96)/2031+**